

# THE JERUSALEM POST

## INTERNATIONAL EDITION

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

### A not so funny war

IT SEEMED last week as if the American public was in dire need of a new national folk hero to boost the morale of President Reagan's administration. Who would then be best suited to provide such a national hero legend if not the U.S. Marines contingent in Beirut?

Along came Charles Johnson, a typical, clean-cut American Marine captain from Wisconsin, who single-handedly forced three Israeli tanks to retreat from what he assumed was Marine-controlled territory between West and East Beirut. He provided his own, instant script when he shouted towards an Israeli lieutenant-colonel, while pointing his loaded pistol: "You are not coming through. You are going to have to kill me."

The entire episode would really be funny, were it not so sad, for it seems to point out some deep resentment towards Israel by the Pentagon, and specifically by Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger.

It was, after all, Mr. Weinberger who seized the opportunity to voice another blast at Israel before a congressional committee, proposing that the Marine captain receive a medal for his "heroic action." What makes matters worse is that President Reagan on Friday adopted the Pentagon's version, stressing that the Marine officer "did the only thing that he could do."

This statement seems unfortunate, for it neglected the facts on the ground which had been established earlier by a joint on-the-spot investigation of American and Israeli senior officers.

When the Marines returned to Beirut at the end of September, together with the French and Italian contingents of the Multinational Force, the area in south-west Beirut — east of the international airport in Halde — was clearly demarcated by the railway tracks which run from south to north. The Lebanese army was to be in control of the area west of the tracks, while the IDF was to keep up controlling the area east of the railway.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese army augmented its forces in the area — the university campus in Reihan — with a Marine contingent. As matters were fairly quiet for weeks, the question of clear demarcation of the areas of control did not come up, although a vital road, which is the main supply line for Israeli forces in East Beirut and points beyond, runs some 400 metres east of the railway tracks.

Trouble started when the terrorists last December attacked an Israeli bus, carrying soldiers, causing heavy casualties. Since this incident Israeli tanks have been clearing the area between the road and the railway tracks every day to protect Israeli traffic. The Marines did not like the close, daily contact with Israeli units, although the patrols clearly moved in Israel-controlled territory. Last Wednesday's by now famous incident, which turned Captain Johnson into a national hero, is one result.

The trouble could have been avoided had the Marines' command in Beirut not refused on at least two occasions to join Israeli officers in an attempt to re-establish the demarcation line. In failing to show up at such joint meetings, the Marine officers acted upon political orders from high up which said that any contact with Israel ought to be made through diplomatic channels.

It appears that there is a method in these orders, which tend to blow up Israel-U.S. military confrontation out of all proportion. If the Pentagon is hoping to expedite Israel's withdrawal from Beirut by these incidents its actions will prove to be counter-productive.

### THE LATEST NEWS FROM ISRAEL

Published in Jerusalem

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## Behind the Marines flap

Israel this week hoped for an apology from the U.S. administration for its reaction to the incident in which a U.S. Marine captain drew his pistol and stopped an Israeli armoured patrol on the outskirts of Beirut. The Israeli cabinet discussed the issue on Sunday and decided not to issue a statement so as to put an end to "the war of declarations."

The incident happened in an area controlled by Israel last week. Israel is concerned that its forces may be open to attack by PLO terrorists infiltrating through the lines held by the Marines. The Marines say they are not authorized to stop armed men.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said before leaving on a visit to Europe that the events in Beirut would not change the character of Israel's friendly relations with the U.S.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Meir said on Sunday that Israel considered the incident closed. No demand had been made for a formal apology but Israel regretted "certain statements which blew up the whole incident" and ignored the facts.

President Ronald Reagan last week defended the actions of Marine Captain Charles Johnson and said he had received assurances from Israel that such incidents will not recur. But Israeli officials say no such pledges have been made.

The Marines are part of the multinational peace-keeping force that has been in Lebanon since late August.

In Jerusalem, recriminations focused mainly on remarks made by Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger. "He blew it out of all

proportion," highly placed officials charged.

In the U.S. Captain Johnson has become a folk hero, who Weinberger said should be awarded a medal. The Israeli tank commander involved charges that Johnson was reeking of alcohol at the time of the incident and believes his judgment may have been impaired. Marines spokesmen denied this.

Israeli military officials said that they were "amazed and taken aback" by Reagan's statement that Johnson had "done the only thing he could do."

These officials noted that it had been proven and admitted by the Americans a day before the president made his statement that the captain had fired in the IDF patrol while it

(Continued on page 2)

## Awaiting Navon's next move

By SARAH HONIG  
Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — President Yitzhak Navon's declaration to the press last week that he "neither plans nor intends to enter politics" was not taken seriously in either the Alignment or the Likud.

Both coalition and opposition are convinced that Navon will indeed seek to lead the Alignment in the next elections after a limited self-imposed leave from public life.

Navon's official announcement that he will not seek a second presidential term was greeted with gratification in the Alignment, most of whose members view him as their potential new leader. And it was received without outward expressions of concern in the Likud, whose leaders have in the past several weeks grown convinced that Navon will soon become an adversary.

The Knesset will elect the new president in April. Among those being mentioned for the position are Interior Minister Yosef Burg, Prof. Ephraim Urbach, Prof. Avner Shalev, Prof. Andre Chouraqui, Prof. Binjamin Akzin, Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, MK Shlomo Hillel, Beer Sheva Mayor Elihu Nawi and lawyer Shlomo Toussia-Cohen.

Insiders in both parties were united in the evaluation that Navon's move will be the more significant after the publication of the findings of the commission of inquiry into the massacres at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Beirut.

"We will then know whether the Navon gamble paid off," a leading Labour Knesset Member said. Labour chairman Shimon Peres still hopes the commission's findings will be so damaging for the government that he will succeed in drawing the Likud's coalition partners into a partnership for an Alignment-led



President Navon met with Prime Minister Begin last week and informed him that he did not wish to serve a second term. (Scoop 80)

coalition without elections. If Peres succeeds, he will become prime minister and Navon will have to content himself with a cabinet portfolio. Navon cannot become prime minister without being elected to the Knesset.

But a damaging commission report would also give renewed impetus to Likud calls for early elections, which Prime Minister Menachem Begin would like held next autumn to coincide with the November local authority elections.

Early elections might be detrimental to Navon's political prospects as he might not have enough time to re-enter the political arena. It is widely assumed that his self-

imposed freeze on political activity will last at least the mandatory 100 days for civil servants. Since he is due to leave the presidency on May 5, this will mean he will not be ready to enter the political fray before the beginning of August.

Others in the Labour Party maintain that this will give him enough time, since election campaigns officially begin three months before polling day. A tight schedule, they argue, will mean that Navon will be drafted to lead Labour, and there will be less likelihood of an intense battle developing over the nomination for premier.

The prevailing opinion in Labour

(Continued on page 2)

## The Bank of Theodor Herzl

"The settler is worthy of more than gift; he is worthy of credit."

The founding credo of Bank Leumi. Written by Herzl in 1897. By 1899, "Otzar Hityashvut Hayehudim." (The Jewish Colonial Trust), Bank Leumi's parent company, was operational.

1902 saw the founding of a banking subsidiary, the Anglo-Palestine Company.

1903, the first office of the subsidiary opened in Jaffa. Since the opening of that first branch, Bank Leumi has played a major role in the development of Israel.

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## Upswing in share market after the selling wave

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN  
Post Finance Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Investors who suffered heavy losses in the recent share-market slide were heartened by the positive performance last Thursday. That session saw five securities registered as "buyers only," in addition to 75 others which recorded gains of as much as 15 per cent.

Stock market analysts were also impressed by the increase in trading turnover which rose to \$1.9 billion. The week's activity began on a discordant note, as the share market registered a fairly sharp loss last Sunday. However, as the week progressed, the atmosphere improved considerably, with the general share index up by 3.34 per cent, banking shares excepted.

Particularly impressive last week were the mortgage banks, which rose by 10.67 per cent. In spite of the overall positive performance of the share market and the apparent readiness of at least a small portion of the investment public to return to the market, there were sharp price swings in both directions. As a result, for example, advanced 55.2 per cent.

Altogether nine securities advanced by 32 per cent or better. Nine securities, however, fell from 23.3 per cent to as much as 41.2 per cent.

It is perhaps too close to the recent sell-off to weigh its full consequences, but for the time being, there has been a return to a more positive stance insofar as the share market is concerned.

Avi Temkin adds:

The continuing recession in Europe and U.S. may make it necessary to implement one-time measures to encourage Israel's exports, deputy Bank of Israel Governor Yohanan Plesner told the Commercial and Industrial Club in Tel Aviv on Friday.

Plesner's message was interpreted by economic observers as a sign of an imminent large devaluation of the shekel. The rate of devaluation has lagged behind the rate of inflation during the past months and this has been strongly protested by exporters and industrialists. Bank of Israel officials denied the devaluation rumours. Plesner himself said that he had been talking of other possible steps, not a large devaluation.

## Israel 'pleased at Barbie capture'

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir expressed satisfaction on Sunday at the capture of Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie and said Israel would provide France with additional evidence against him.

Speaking to reporters at Ben-Gurion Airport before flying to Bonn, Shamir said: "We hope that this will encourage other efforts to bring to trial Nazi war criminals still at large."

"It is a great satisfaction for us that one of the notorious war criminals will be brought to trial in France, and that justice will be done for the crimes he has committed."

Klaus (Altmann) Barbie, the "Butcher of Lyon," was brought to France from Bolivia on Saturday. Barbie will face charges of ordering the deaths of thousands of Jews and anti-Nazis here during World War II.

Authorities said Barbie, 69, would be prosecuted on charges of crimes against humanity for his actions as head of the Nazi SS in Lyon.



Barbie when he was commander of the SS in Lyon.

Israeli agents in Argentina in 1980 and hanged after a lengthy trial in Jerusalem.

The short and balding Barbie was expelled on Friday night from Bolivia, where he had lived since 1951 under the alias of Klaus Altmann. He was granted Bolivian citizenship under his assumed name in 1957.

Barbie had been in a La Paz jail since January 25 on charges of fraud in connection with a \$10,000 debt to the state mining company.

His presence in the South American nation was first made public 11 years ago by Serge and Bette Klarfeld, French Nazi hunters. Since then, French and West German officials have sought his extradition.

In France, Barbie is accused of ordering the deportation of 7,391 Jews to Nazi concentration camps, of the torturing death of French resistance leader Jean Moulin and for the execution of 40,000 other French Jews and anti-Nazis.

## BEHIND THE MARINES FLAP

(Continued from page 1.)

was still clearly in Israel-controlled territory. The marine captain drew his pistol and climbed on an Israeli tank and refused to let the tanks pass.

Military sources said last week they are of the impression "that the American administration, which for some reason wants to turn this episode into one of international importance, won't be deterred by the facts."

This view was echoed on Friday night by an official at the Israeli embassy in Washington, who has been participating in Washington talks on the situation in Beirut. He said there were persons in the administration who wanted to exacerbate the situation.

It is believed here that Weinberger, who played an important personal role in making sure that the Beirut Marine-IDF clash received as much publicity as possible, wants to create as unpleasant a situation as possible for IDF forces stationed in Lebanon, so as to create yet another pressure point on Israel to agree to a prompt withdrawal from Lebanon.

"It is clear to us," senior IDF officer said Friday, "that the publicity and attention these minor incidents between us and the Marines are getting is being engineered by officials who have an ulterior motive."

"I can assure you," the senior officer continued, "that the IDF will remain in Lebanon for as long as the government tells it to, and that the IDF will ensure that it does not suffer casualties as a result of terror, even if this means unpleasantness with the Marines."



US Marines captain Charles Johnson.

held only on Thursday, 24 hours after the tank incident.

It has become clear that the three IDF tanks never entered territory under the control of either the Lebanese Army or the Marines, and that Johnson was simply unaware of the lines and the procedure to be followed in the event of an incident.

But the Americans apparently felt there was room for improvement, and later in the week agreed to the oft-postponed mutual patrol along the demarcation lines. There had been agreement since last September over spheres of control. But despite this understanding, there have been at least six confrontations between the Marines and the IDF in the past month, all of which are regarded as having been "theatrical and unnecessary," according to a senior Israeli military source.

Tal-Aluf Amnon, the commander of Israeli forces in Beirut, said at a press conference in Beirut last week that when he met the Americans last Thursday, they admitted to him that the Marines did not have the authority to apprehend armed civilians in West Beirut. They could only ask the Lebanese security forces to do so.

"Their mandate is clearly to prevent terrorist activity in the area, and I can't say they are doing their job the way we understand it," Amnon concluded.

(Compiled from reports by Hersh Goodman, David Landau and Wolf Blitzer)

(See also page 4)

## Evidence of terrorist 'hit lists'

By HYAM CORNEY  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. — Details of the alleged "hit lists" of Jewish and Israeli targets found in the homes of three Arabs accused of the attempted murder of Israeli Ambassador Shlomo Argov last June were revealed in court on Friday.

The lengthy lists, together with addresses and in some cases telephone numbers, include Israeli banks, the Israel government's

tourist office, the Zionist Federation, the Joint Israel Appeal, numerous synagogues, the chief rabbi, Jewish schools and clubs, Jewish charities and the Institute for Jewish Affairs.

Within hours of the shooting of the ambassador, police went to three addresses where the alleged gunmen were living. Three of the officers involved gave evidence in court on Friday that they found guns and ammunition — in addition to the lists.

## Egyptian sportsman

Post Sports Reporter

HERZLIYA. — Egyptian Mousa Heila has been seeded No. 1 in Israel's first professional squash tournament, which starts this week at the luxurious new Herzliya Squash Centre. London-based Heila, will be only the second Egyptian sportsman to compete in Israel to date, following tennis player Aly Elwardy in 1981.

A total of 170 players from some 10 countries have entered the week-long meet.

## NEWS REPORT

## West Bank 'peace covenant' mooted

By A.E. NORDEN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Arabs from the West Bank and Gaza Strip will be asked to approve a 39-point Palestinian National Peace Covenant at a founding convention in Hebron this month of a new political party, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

The chairman of the Hebron area village leagues, Mohammed Nusser, told *The Post* last week that the covenant will be presented to delegates and others who attend the meeting of the Palestinian Democratic Peace Movement on February 12, just before the PLO's Palestinian National Congress in Algiers.

The covenant includes the following points:

- A rejection of the 1974 Rabat resolution, whereby the Arab states named the PLO the only representative of the Palestinians. The "peace covenant" asserts that the Rabat resolution is "null and void."

since the PLO is "run by various Arab regimes" and has brought only "disaster" on the Palestinians.

- The acceptance of Israel's "right to exist" and the right of Jews "to live where they want."

- A call to the Palestinians to "hold onto their soil and national unity," and to the world to recognize their "right to a homeland in the West Bank and Gaza."

- A call for "direct negotiations" between the Palestinians and Israel, leading to a peace treaty. The basis of these negotiations is to be UN Security Council resolutions and the Camp David framework.

- A call for "internationally supervised elections" in the West Bank and Gaza, to determine the "true leaders" of the Palestinians.

- "Special relations" between the future Palestinian state and Jordan. Other sections of the covenant deal with some of the political, social and economic institutions of

the Palestinian state. A local police force is envisaged to keep "law and order." Although "free access to holy places" is cited, there is no mention of Jerusalem.

Nusser, an electrical engineer, said that 60 delegates — 20 from the Gaza Strip and 40 from the West Bank — will take part in the Hebron meeting as founders of the first legal political party in the area since the Six Day War. He said the military government is aware of these plans and has not objected to the formation of the National Peace Movement.

The party, Nusser said, will in effect be an expanded version of the village leagues.

He added that he expects "many thousands" of residents of the West Bank and Gaza to be on hand. They will also be presented with the covenant, and Nusser said that he thought they would accept it by acclamation.

## Habash attacks Arafat's policy

By DAVID BERNSTEIN  
Post Middle East Affairs Reporter

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's diplomatic strategy has been vehemently challenged by George Habash, leader of the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Habash is quoted as telling a news conference in Damascus last week that he will demand that the Palestine National Congress, which is due to meet in Algiers later this month, issue a clear rejection of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's latest Middle East peace initiative as well as of Arafat's talks with Jordan's King Hussein on a future Palestinian-Jordanian confederation.

He described the Reagan plan as an attempt to "liquidate the Palestinian state." He declared that Arab support of the Reagan plan would be part of a "defeatist" bid to solve



George Habash

the Palestinian problem through negotiation rather than "armed struggle."

Habash's press conference, less than two weeks before the scheduled PNC meeting in Algiers, has cleared any doubts about his position on Arafat's moderate line.

The PFLP, the PLO's second largest faction, previously took a somewhat ambiguous position, and it was not clear until now whether it would line up against Arafat in Algiers.

Arafat, meanwhile, has shown no sign of abandoning his commitment to a diplomatic offensive against Israel, apparently confident that the overwhelming numerical preponderance of his Fatah group in the PLO will tell when the PNC convenes to decide the PLO's course.

He was quoted as telling the Saudi daily *al-Bilad* last week that the PLO welcomes involvement in any constructive and positive peace process. He is reportedly planning another visit to Amman soon to continue his dialogue with Hussein. This will be his fifth visit to Amman since the PLO was ousted from Beirut last August.

## Reagan sweetens aid offer

By WOLF BLITZER  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — The Reagan administration has proposed that the grant portion of the coming year's economic and military aid package for Israel be increased.

Despite current strains between Washington and Jerusalem, the administration will recommend to Congress in the coming days a slightly more favourable aid bill for Israel than it did a year ago.

As usual, however, the increases will fall short of the original Israeli request, which totalled more than \$3 billion in various forms of economic and military grants and loans.

The 1984 budget, submitted to Congress last Monday, did not publicly detail the administration's exact aid levels for various countries. But well-informed sources disclosed that the administration will shortly inform Congress that it wants the same overall \$2.5b. level for Israel — only in more favourable grant/loan ratio.

Of the \$785m. in economic aid, the administration will propose that the entire amount be in the form of a grant — as opposed to only two-thirds in last year's bill.

One-third was a loan, although Congress later converted it to a grant even in the face of administration opposition.

On the military side, the administration will recommend that \$550m. of the \$1.7b. be in grants — as opposed to \$500m. last year.

Egypt, in the new package, will also obtain more favourable terms. Israel and Egypt are approaching parity in their aid levels. The administration will propose that Egypt receive \$1.3b. in military aid — of which \$450m. will be grants.

All of the \$750m. slated for Egypt in economic assistance will be in grants, as opposed to two-thirds last year. In addition, Egypt will receive \$250m. in surplus food sales. Israel is not eligible for that programme.

Under U.S. law, Congress can change recommended aid levels during its lengthy legislative review of the bill.

## Man charged in bombing

SYDNEY (Reuters). — Police last week charged a man of Lebanese origin with planting a bomb at a Jewish club in Sydney.

They arrested Mohamed Ali Baydoun in raids in Sydney's southern suburbs after the bombing of the club and the Israeli consulate on December 23.

## Shamir in Europe

Jerusalem Post Staff

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir has left on a five-day visit to Western Europe that will take him through Germany, Luxembourg and Belgium as guest of their foreign ministers.

Shamir will try to persuade his hosts to revoke three gestures of the European Community's displeasure towards Israel after its invasion of Lebanon last June. These gestures caused a freeze on a financial protocol for development, and on a joint committee for development projects, and a ban on weapons sales to Israel.

Shamir's visit was given considerable advance publicity in leading German newspapers, particularly since it came within days of the 50th anniversary of Hitler's rise to power.

*Die Welt* publisher Axel Springer published a front-page letter of welcome to Shamir, in which he expressed his unreserved support for Israel. Springer rejected the Palestinians' demand for self-determination, since it is accompanied by terror and the denial of Israel's right to exist.

He also charged West Germany's Near East policy with being tainted, for a considerable time, by the opportunistic consideration of Arab oil interests.

## Known news is good news



Israelis are, by nature and circumstance, a news-hungry people. They listen to radio and television news broadcasts several times daily, and scour the pages of one or two newspapers, plus assorted magazines, for all the details of events and trends in their country, the Middle East and the world.

The news doesn't often tell Israelis what they want to hear. Strife between Christians and Druse — and now, between the IDF and the U.S. Marines — still disturbs Lebanon. Dozens are killed weekly in traffic accidents on Israel's streets and highways. Inflation runs rampant, the stock market has plunged, and even the weather forecast is lousy.

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# ABC of America's Mid-East strategy

ASSISTANT SECRETARY of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs Nicholas Veliotes tied up several loose ends of U.S. policy towards Lebanon and the broader Arab-Israeli peace process during two-and-a-half hours of fascinating testimony last week before the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East.

Veliotes, a former No. 2 man at the U.S. embassy in Tel Aviv who later went on to serve as the U.S. ambassador to Jordan, clearly knows the Middle East and its most critical nuances. As a result, he successfully managed to disarm several of Israel's supporters on the panel who had come prepared to challenge the Reagan Administration's policies towards Israel and the dragging troop withdrawal negotiations in Lebanon.

Defence Minister Ariel Sharon has made it his business in recent weeks to publicly and repeatedly lash out at the U.S. role in the Lebanese negotiations. Specifically, Sharon has accused the administration of actually hampering Israel's efforts to normalize relations and make peace with Lebanon.

The defence minister has deeply angered State Department and White House officials with his comments and they would clearly be delighted to see his career cut short by the final verdict of the Kahan Commission of Inquiry into the Sabra and Shatila massacres. At best, Sharon is seen by the U.S. administration as anti-American — a pest. At worst, he is feared to be a

dangerous fanatic — someone who has managed to make Prime Minister Menachem Begin look moderate in comparison.

VELIOTES was bombarded with questions about Sharon's allegations. He said that anyone who believed that the U.S. was actually discouraging the Lebanese Government from making peace with Israel, was either "gullible or stupid."

What was important to remember, he said, was that the U.S. favoured the signing of formal peace treaties between Israel and all of its Arab neighbours, including Lebanon. The Lebanese Government, for its part, also "wants friendly relations with Israel," he added, insisting that Lebanon was prepared to go a long way towards meeting Israel's security concerns.

That is why it has agreed to discuss a framework for future relations with Israel in the current face-to-face negotiations. The fact that such discussions are taking place at all is significant, he said.

Still, Lebanon ultimately must be the judge of what is possible, given the "delicate internal consensus" of the country and its financial dependence on other Arab states.

The implication was clear: who would replace Saudi Arabia and other oil-rich Arab states with vast sums of financial assistance to Lebanon if it should move too quickly with Israel? And who would emerge as Lebanon's major commercial trading partners if it were to

By WOLF BLITZER  
Washington Correspondent

be cut off from the rest of the Arab world?

VELIOTES WAS indirectly aided in rebutting Sharon's accusations by Democratic Representative Stephen Solarz of New York, one of Israel's best friends.

Solarz, of course, had forcefully pressed Israel's case for strong security guarantees in South Lebanon. Thus, it was in response to his probing questions that Veliotes disclosed that the Lebanese Government would probably even allow Major Sa'ad Haddad's forces to play a peace-keeping role in South Lebanon, a move that is favoured by Israel.

The congressman recalled his own conversation with Lebanon's late president-elect Bashir Jomayel in Beirut in early September, nine days before Bashir's assassination.

Unlike Amin Jomayel, Bashir was a close ally and friend of Israel.

What was possible, Solarz quoted Bashir as having said, was the establishment of a *de facto* peace with Israel. It was crucial that Israeli leaders not press Lebanon against the wall to do what might be pleasing to a domestic Israeli audience but what would be counterproductive to everyone's best interests in the long run.

In disrupting the delicate balance in Lebanon, peace with Israel would become even more unlikely.

Veliotes picked up on Solarz's

comments, indicating that even Amin Jomayel — while clearly not as pro-Israel as Bashir — was still prepared today to do what the assassinated Phalange leader had wanted to do: Make real peace in all but name.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT official, by the way, did not agree with Solarz that the UNIFIL forces in Lebanon — on their past record — should necessarily be disqualified as potential peace-keepers in the south.

In any case, he added, the situation in South Lebanon today is totally different. The PLO no longer has any military infrastructure in the area, as it did before the war. There is no more of a PLO "state within a state" in Lebanon.

Regarding the prospects of Jordan's King Hussein joining the U.S.-sponsored Arab-Israeli peace process, Veliotes said flatly: "I'm optimistic." The PLO still had to give the final green light, which could come during the next meeting of the Palestine National Council, scheduled next week in Algiers. At the same time, Veliotes — like Reagan earlier in the day during a White House meeting with American Jewish leaders — appealed for a permanent freeze on Israeli settlements on the West Bank. Together with some real progress in the Lebanese negotiations, such a halt to settlement activity could prove to be the essential ingredients in Arab-Israeli peace-making right now.

FOR THE U.S., Veliotes said, there were some serious credibility problems in the Arab world at present. Many influential Arabs simply believe that Israel and Syria, somehow, have conspired to end the Lebanese negotiations in order to carve up the country for themselves. There have even been press reports, he said, that Israel and Syria may have had some "clandestine meetings."

"We have no evidence of this," said Veliotes. "We do not believe that there has been any such collusion."

Another credibility problem facing Washington, he said, was the suspicion in the Arab world that the U.S. was actually behind the Israeli moves in Lebanon in the first place.

A great boon to the peace process, he said, had been Israel's 1981 withdrawal from Sinai as part of the peace treaty with Egypt. Many Arabs were flabbergasted that Israel had actually left Sinai. They thought Israel would find an excuse not to do so. But since then, he said, the Arabs have come to doubt that Israel will ever follow suit on the West Bank and Gaza — and that has been a serious obstacle standing in the way of broadening the peace process.

Veliotes pinned much of the blame on the current stalemate in the Camp David peace negotiation directly on Jordan, the Palestinians and other Arabs. As ambassador in Amman in 1978, he had strongly appealed to them — for their own good — to accept the framework accords as a basis for negotiations with Israel.

## NEWS REPORT

### PLO wants thousands for eight Israelis

The PLO has demanded the release of 5,500 Palestinians and Lebanese held in Southern Lebanon, and also prisoners in Israeli jails, in exchange for eight captured Israeli soldiers, the PLO's military chief told the Associated Press on Friday.

Khalil Wazir, the PLO deputy commander also known as Abu Jihad, told the AP in an interview that the demands were given to the International Red Cross and Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky last week for relay to Israel.

"It is in the Geneva Convention when there is an armistice, each side must give up all the prisoners they have. It's a common principle. We have eight. They have all those (thousands)," Wazir said.

There has been no reply from the Israeli government.

Israel does not regard the suspected terrorists as prisoners of war.

Wazir listed the demands as:

- Release of all 5,500 detainees, both Palestinian and Lebanese, held at the Ansar prison camp in Southern Lebanon, plus the un-

known number taken into Israel for questioning.

• Freedom for 1,000 people imprisoned in Israel from 1967 to the present.

• Return of the library of the Palestine Research Centre in Beirut, "which was stolen by some (Israeli) officers and carried to Hebrew University" after the PLO was expelled from the Lebanese capital in August and September.

• A week ago we offered these demands to Mr. Kreisky in Vienna, and suggested that the exchange take place in Vienna, with Kreisky's approval," Wazir said.

Wazir also said that the PLO is demanding U.S. recognition as the price for joining American-sponsored Middle East peace efforts.

In Washington, Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky said he recently achieved "some progress" in his behind the scenes efforts to release Israeli prisoners of war held in Syria.

But the Austrian leader, in Washington for talks last week at

the White House with President Ronald Reagan, refused to provide any details, insisting the subject was too sensitive.

The Syrians are known to hold three Israeli soldiers.

The mother of one of the two Israeli soldiers being held by Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-Popular Command appealed over Army Radio on Friday for the Red Cross to be allowed to meet with her son and his fellow prisoner.

Appearing on Alex Ansky's *Mothers' Voice* programme Friday morning, Miriam Groff of Holon said that in the five months and one week that the two have been in captivity no word has been heard about their welfare, and no Red Cross or other official has been allowed to meet them.

Yosef Gruff and Nissim Shalom, were among eight members of a Nahal unit captured by the terrorists. The other six are being held by the PLO and have been visited by Red Cross officials and have appeared before foreign journalists.

### Yitzhak Olshan dies at 87

Yitzhak Olshan, the second president of Israel's Supreme Court, died in Jerusalem on February 5 at the age of 87.

Yitzhak Olshan (as he was then called) came to Palestine in 1912 from Kaunas, Lithuania, where he was born on February 19, 1895. He studied at the Tel Aviv Herzliya Gymnasium.

During World War I, Olshan remained on the home front as a hewer of wood, thus obtaining a release from Turkish army service. His idea was "to remain in the country and to stick to the soil."

With the British advance he joined the Jewish battalions where he rose to the rank of sergeant. He came into close contact with Yitzhak Ben-Zvi, Berl Katznelson and Vladimir Jabotinsky. Following his discharge, he became commander of the Tel Aviv district of Hagana.

A year after his discharge Olshan went to England. He studied social science at the London School of Economics. During his stay in England, he acted as a liaison officer between the Labour leaders in Palestine and the Labour Party in London. He was very active in the Poale Zion branch at Whitechapel.

He turned to law, obtaining his LL.B. in 1927. He returned to this country, took the foreign advocates examination and joined the firm of the late Mordechai Eliash.

His close connection with labour leadership and many talents made him a natural choice as one of the first five members of the Supreme Court on the establishment of the State in 1948.

Olshan endeavoured to keep the courts free of politics. He vigorously opposed the recruiting of judges for any other but their regular duties.

His judgments were distinguished



### Giants slain

TEL AVIV. — No fewer than three National League teams were ignominiously ousted from the State Cup Saturday. Five others must replay matches this Tuesday, having failed to overcome their opponents even in 90 minutes of extra time after drawing games during the first 90 minutes.

The most amazing victory of the day was that of Fourth Division Lazarus Holon over Hapoel Kfar Saba, the National League Champions. David smote Goliath good and hard, to the tune of 2-0, and never looked like failing to win.

#### RESULTS

Kiryat Shmona 0, Shimshon 1 (after 120 mins.)  
Jaffa 0, Hakoah 1  
Hapoel Tel Aviv 1, Be'er Sheva 1  
Acre 1, Be'er J'lim 1 (after 120 mins.)  
Marmorek 1, Hapoel TA 1  
Yotam 2, Shfarim 1  
Rishon 3, Mac. Hafia 2 (after 120 mins. 2-2 after 90)  
Lod 3, Be'er TA 1  
Hapoel Hadera 1, Yotam 2 (after 120 mins. 0-0 after 90)  
Be'er Yotam 1, Ashdod 1 (after 120 mins. 1-1 after 90)  
Mac. TA 3, Atlitin 0  
Mac. Pi B. Ramat Aviad 0 (after 120 mins.)  
Hapoel J'lim 3, Kiryat Gat 0  
Tel Hadya 3, Hapoel RG B  
Netanya 7, Mac. Hadera 1  
Lazarus Holon 2, Kfar Saba 0.

#### Hoopster victory

Maccabi Tel Aviv survived a late scare to notch up an important confidence-boosting 94-87 victory over Cibona Zagreb in their European Cup basketball match in Yugoslavia last week. Standings after the game were:

	P	W	L	PP	PA	Pts.
Maccabi	7	4	3	612	591	11
Cibona	6	4	2	476	403	10
Slavia	6	4	2	471	448	10
CSKA	6	3	3	511	499	9
Real	5	3	2	455	435	8
Cibona	6	0	6	500	587	6

#### THE WEATHER

	Saturday's Min-Max	Sunday's Min-Max
Jerusalem	1-9	10
Nahariya	3-15	15
Safed	0-7	8
Haifa Port	—	—
Tiberias	3-14	15
Nazareth	—12	13
Elit	3-18	20

#### January shows record low for Soviet aliya

Only 81 Jews left the Soviet Union last month, and 19 of them immigrated to Israel, according to the Jewish Agency. This is the lowest Soviet figure for any month in more than a decade. In January 1982 at total of 290 Jews, left the

Soviet Union. However, immigration from all countries combined increased last year to 13,260, compared with 12,000 in 1981. Most of the increase came from Rumania — with 1,538 — as well as France and the U.S.



A young victim of Saturday's car bomb explosion in Beirut is carried away to an ambulance. (UPI telephoto)

### Violence continues in Lebanon

Violence continued to flare in Lebanon last week, with 40 deaths reported in various areas of the country. One Israeli soldier, Turai (Private) David Borda, 19, was killed on January 30 when the armoured personnel carrier in which he was riding was hit by a rocket southeast of Beirut. Three other soldiers were injured.

Later in the week a car bomb set off a PLO centre and the Libyan Embassy in Moslem West Beirut, killing 20 persons.

Three other persons were killed, and 49 injured in rocket exchanges between Christian and Druse militiamen in Christian East Beirut.

In the Shouf mountains in central Lebanon, 17 persons were killed and 34 hurt in duels between Christian and Druse forces.

Meanwhile, the IDF spokesman said that several Katyusha rockets were fired in the Ayun Valley in South Lebanon and fell north of the Israeli border, not far from Meulim.

## Dispute over security zone

By DAVID LANDAU  
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

A major dispute has suddenly emerged between Israel and Lebanon on the basic issue of the size of the proposed security zone in South Lebanon. Lebanese officers at talks in Israel last week said Beirut would not countenance a 45-50 kilometre zone, as Israel demands in negotiations on withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon. Beirut envisages a zone of less than half that size.

Israel's contention has always been that the zone must coincide with the farthest range of Soviet artillery pieces, so as to ensure that the north of Galilee is not threatened by bombardment again.

Lebanon apparently regards the security zone primarily as an anti-infiltration belt, rather than as an

anti-artillery buffer.

There had been no public indication earlier in the week that the Lebanese would take issue with Israel over the depth of the security zone. Previously, Lebanese leaders had said publicly that they recognized the need for such a zone, and had not referred to its envisaged dimensions.

The size of the zone is the latest, and perhaps the most fundamental, in a series of disputes concerning security arrangements in south Lebanon.

• The role of UNIFIL and the multinational force in the south (Israel wants neither of them in the security zone).

• The role of Major Sa'ad Haddad's militia.

• The Israeli demand for IDF-manned anti-terror posts in the zone.

The negotiations intensified last week, with the opening of subcommittee sessions in Netanya. The subcommittees will meet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, one week in Israel and one week in Lebanon. The Monday and Thursday meetings of the plenum and some of the subcommittees in Haifa and Kiryat Shmona will continue.

Prime Minister Menachem Begin told the cabinet last week that Israel should focus on the "broad complex" of security issues in South Lebanon rather than on the controversial demand for Israeli-manned warning stations. Some ministers saw his pronouncement as signalling a possible softening of Israel's insistence on the warning stations — if alternative security arrangements can be devised.

Meanwhile, the leader of the Christian militia forces in Southern Lebanon, Major Sa'ad Haddad, said last week that the Lebanese government is too weak to guarantee any agreement it may sign with Israel. He added that he doubts the Syrians will leave Lebanon, saying that President Amin Jomayel "does not have the power to force them to leave."

The Associated Press reported from Damascus that Syrian and Soviet officials warned Israel against launching a new offensive in Lebanon's Bekin Valley. Syria has rebuilt its army in Lebanon in expectation of an Israeli attack within weeks.

In Beirut, a visiting Soviet official said an Israeli attack on Syria would lead to "very serious consequences."

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Doctor Philosophiae Honoris Causa of the University,  
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member of the University's Board of Governors,  
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## 'Crisis' in health system

By MARGERY GREENFELD  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The directors of three large government hospitals — Sheba, Rabin and Ichilov — and their senior medical staff have appealed to Health Minister Eliezer Shustak to act immediately to relieve the "burgeoning crisis" in the health-care system.

The doctors protested overcrowding in government hospitals in the large cities, and denied a lack of nurses, support staff and equipment, which they said creates "a danger to the public. Patients are dying because they aren't getting the proper medical care."

Shustak agreed with the doctors that there should be a public outcry, but he added that there is no possibility of increasing the number of employment slots under the recently approved budget. The ministry struggled to get its current budget allocation, Shustak said, and it is pleased with the result.

But later in the week, the Health Ministry announced a plan to relieve overcrowding in four of the country's most overcrowded hospitals. Emergency facilities were made available, and the ministry said 800 new beds will be provided for geriatric patients this year.

The doctors blame much of the problem on the regional hospitalization plan implemented by the

Health Ministry and Kupat Holim in 1981, under which patients are restricted to using only those hospitals in their districts.

This places an unfair burden on hospitals in centres with high population density, while leaving other medical facilities under-used.

The Health Ministry, while expressing its support for the improvement of the country's medical service, noted that the doctors are gearing up for a general strike sometime this week. "Rather than focussing its attention on higher salaries, it would be more useful if the Israel Medical Association would devote itself to fighting for better health care," the spokeswoman said.

Dr. Ram Ishai, chairman of the medical association, last week dismissed the ministry's claim as propaganda. "The ministry is probably acting under instructions from the Treasury to issue some sort of statement every day to mobilize public support against the doctors," Ishai said.

The doctors are demanding a 10 per cent salary rise.

The medical association says doctors' wages are among the lowest in the country. A doctor's basic hourly wage ranges from \$2.50 to \$3, less than the \$10 or more received by accountants, attorneys and others working in the free professions, the association claimed.

## Aid for the troubled

By MARGERY GREENFELD  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Health Minister Eliezer Shustak said last week that great strides have been made in many areas of Israel's health-care system, but progress in the field of mental health has not reached the desired level.

Shustak was addressing the annual national conference of Eran, the Israeli association for emotional first aid, which operates an emergency telephone answering service for emotionally distressed people in five cities (Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Beer Sheva, Haifa and Netanya).

Speaking to several hundred volunteers and members of the newly founded Friends of Eran, Shustak said, "I feel a bit guilty when I stand before you, because there is much to be done in the mental health field that hasn't been done."

"I'm happy that Eran is filling part of that vacuum," he said, promising that the ministry "would do its best to help the group's

progress within our limited resources."

To mobilize more support and funds for Eran both locally and abroad, the friends organization was established about six months ago. Dr. Yehuda Pardo, one of the founding members, told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The friends will step up fund-raising activities with the aim of expanding Eran's services to outlying areas and increasing the number of hours that telephone help is available, Pardo said.

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek said that he had been doubtful about the need for a group like Eran when Maria Zaslany, widow of psychiatrist Arie Zaslany, came to him with the idea for the service in 1971.

"But I was proved wrong," Kollek said, noting that the Jerusalem branch's 24-hour hotline receives 30 phone calls a day. "That makes more than 10,000 calls in one year in the capital alone, and think of the hundreds who may not have reached one of the service's two telephone lines."

## 'Rise in teenage drinking'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A dramatic increase in teenage crimes committed while under the influence of alcohol has been noted by youth probation officers in Tel Aviv.

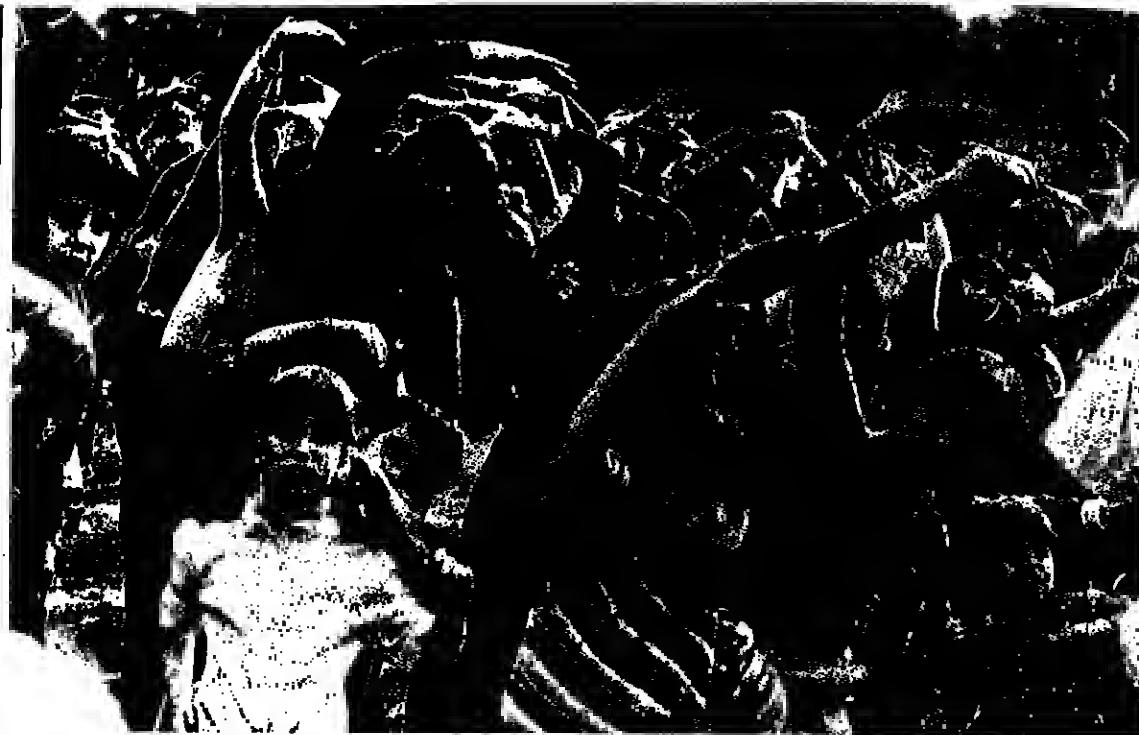
They reported that they saw as a disturbing trend to Dr. Menahem Horowitz, head of the department of correctional services in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, at a meeting last week.

The probation officers said that there has been an increase in heavy drinking at parties and more cases where minors admit in court that they were drunk when they committed

crimes. They told Horowitz that urgent educational measures to turn teenagers away from excessive drinking are needed before the trend becomes a widespread problem.

The unit for prevention and treatment of alcoholism in the ministry has until now only dealt with adults, but is reportedly considering programmes for combating drinking problems among youth.

Horowitz called on the police to enforce laws against serving drinks to minors, which he said are a dead letter, and to introduce more severe punishments for this.



Young — and not so young — Tel Aviv keep-fit enthusiasts take part in an aerobic dancing session at Hayarkon Park. Aerobic dancing combines dance movements and exercises performed to music. (Uzi Keren)

## Allocations to yeshivot

Post Economic Reporter

The Treasury will transfer IS2.8 billion to yeshivot during the 1983 fiscal year, as part of the coalition agreement. However, it admits it has no control over the way the money is spent, the number of pupils enrolled in the yeshivot or if the yeshivot have other sums transferred to it from the government budget.

"These funds were given yesterday to the Knesset State Control Committee in the conclusion of their debate over the sums transferred from the Treasury to the Religious Affairs Ministry for religious institutions."

During the meeting, the Treasury was presented for the first time with a list of 80 religious institutions receiving money from the public coffers.

The list is divided into four groups. The first group of yeshivot is connected to the different Agudat Yisrael factions. A second group of institutes and yeshivot is linked to the National Religious Party. A third group represents Sephardi yeshivot, while a fourth group brings together a number of institutions under the title "Treasury's obligations" to which no explanation was added.

According to the Treasury, the list was drawn up by MK Avraham Melamed (NRP) and MK Shlomo Lorincz (Agudat Yisrael) and then presented by Melamed to the Treasury. The cash is then transferred to the institution listed without any control on the ways the recipients use the money.

At the meeting State Comptroller Yitzhak Tunk criticized the ways the money is transferred and said it would be better if no politician was involved in the process.

## Help for Lebanon

NAZARETH. — Jewish and Arab residents have contributed millions of shekels for Palestinian refugees in South Lebanon. The Scout movement has collected several thousand pairs of new shoes, clothing and stoves from Jewish and Arab schools, mostly in the North.

## \$10,000 quality-of-life prizes

Post Knesset Reporter

Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor last week announced the establishment of a million-dollar prize fund to encourage practical contributions to the improvement of the quality of life in Israel.

The prize money is being donated by the Seltschik family of France, whom Savidor did not further identify.

The fund, to be known as the Knesset Speaker's Fund, will award ten prizes a year, of \$10,000 each, to individuals, teams or institutions that have made a contribution in the following areas:

Absorption of immigrants and preventing emigration; ethnic integration and bridging social gaps; care of the needy; mutual tolerance and manifestations of good

neighbourliness, protection of environment; fighting road accidents; means of saving energy; enrichment of cultural life in the humanities or sciences; improving Arab-Jewish relations; contribution in the humanities or sciences that serves to bring France and Israel closer together.

The board of trustees of the fund consists of the Knesset Speaker, two representatives of the largest Knesset factions, three presidents of academic institutions, a former Supreme Court justice, two representatives of the donors, and the Knesset Clerk.

Candidates for the prizes will be examined by 10 professional committees, each consisting of an MK and two members of the public familiar with the nominee.

## 4 flats for Kfar Shalem family

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Yehoshua family of Kfar Shalem is to receive four apartments from Halamish, the municipal housing company — one for the parents and their young children, and one for each married child, Deputy Mayor Yigal Griffl and Halamish director-general Aharon Farber said last week.

The family's eldest son, Shimon, 26, was shot to death by the police on December 23 when he tried to prevent the demolition of an illegal structure added to the family's house, in Kfar Shalem, one of the underprivileged areas of Tel Aviv. He fired first, but it is unclear whether he aimed at the police or not.

In the midst of the public storm raging around the demolition, Mayor Shlomo Lahat, who signed the demolition order, said that the Yehoshua family owns three or four apartments apart from the house in Kfar Shalem.

But an investigation by Halamish shows that the 18-member Yehoshua family owns no housing except the two-room dwelling to which they had tried to add the room that was demolished.

The Yehoshua family is eligible, as part of the programme to rehabilitate slum residents, to receive one apartment for the parents and their young children and one for each married son or daughter living with them, Griffl and Farber said, after visiting the family.

## Protesters occupy bomb shelter

Ten young couples without apartments of their own and several neighbourhood activists last week broke into a public bomb shelter in Jerusalem's Musrara district and set up what they called the "Musrara Settlement" — using the term associated with Jewish settlement in Judea and Samaria, *hitnahlut*.

A spokesman for the group, Zion Hayoun, said that during four days of rehabilitation of the area, 65

promised apartments have not been built. Instead, there have been some "cosmetic" changes, while most of Musrara is becoming dilapidated.

He demanded that the Housing Ministry devote the same resources to rebuilding neighbourhoods like Musrara as it does to building new settlements in Judea and Samaria. The police did not intervene immediately.

## 'Jewish unity is answer to Hitler'

Jerusalem Post Staff and Agencies

President Yitzhak Navon, speaking last week at a ceremony in Jerusalem at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial to mark the 50th year of Hitler's rise to power in Germany said: "Hitler did not differentiate between Ashkenazim and Sephardim, so let us not do so either."

He reminded the audience that Hitler destroyed all Sephardi Jews, as well as Ashkenazim, who fell into his clutches.

The president said the answer to the Holocaust must be for the Jews to unite in their own land and to multiply their numbers, to make up for the six million Holocaust martyrs.

Navon also called on the nations of the world to strengthen Israel, the "heart of the Jewish people," as an answer to the Holocaust.

He asked Israelis to refrain from using the expressions "Nazi" or "Hitler" out of context, because that weakened the true meaning of the Holocaust.

The ceremony was attended by Holocaust survivors and Jerusalem school children, who laid flowers on the common grave containing ashes of victims.

Labour MK Shimon Weiss complained last week to Speaker Menahem Savidor that the Knesset was one of the few parliaments which failed to mark the 50th anniversary.

Weiss noted that seven motions for the agenda marking the event had been disallowed by the presidium on the grounds that there was no room in the week's agenda. "It is strange that a Jewish parliament in a Jewish state should demonstrate such obtuseness towards such a colossal issue," Weiss wrote Savidor.

In West Berlin Federal German Chancellor Helmut Kohl urged Germans to heed the lessons of the past and declared they will do so after what he called the shameful experience of 1933.

"We cannot and will not shirk our responsibility for the past," Kohl told a gathering at the old Reichstag building in West Berlin.

"Too many (Democrats) shirked their responsibility for Hitler truths and painful consequences. The decay of power was first of all a decay in responsibility," he said.

Former chancellor Willy Brandt told the anniversary meeting that the Federal Republic could again be facing the test of 1933.

He cited more than two million currently unemployed, the "madness" of armaments, which he said was sapping national energies, and signs of racial hatred.

## Stravinsky score

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek has donated a rare manuscript by composer Igor Stravinsky to the music department of the Jewish National and University Library at the Hebrew University. The score is of "Abraham and Isaac," a ballet for baritone and chamber orchestra.

Commissioned by the Israel Festival in 1962, the composition had its premiere two years later in Jerusalem. The score, 34 pages long, was later given by Stravinsky to Kollek.

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# Begin's thinking on Lebanon

By ARYEHI RUBINSTEIN  
Post Knesset Reporter

Israel's negotiations with the Lebanese must be conducted with a sense of urgency, but also with a measure of patience, Prime Minister Menachem Begin said in the Knesset last week when he opened a debate on the budget of the Prime Minister's Office.

Israel cannot withdraw its forces from Lebanon unilaterally and let thousands of Lebanese leftists and PLO terrorists reorganize, Begin said. That would be a sure recipe for restoring the status quo ante, with Israel's northern towns and settlements in jeopardy.

For this reason, Israel was insisting on adequate security arrangements in Lebanon after the withdrawal of foreign troops — arrangements not just on paper but on the ground. Such arrangements would ensure peace not only for Galilee, but for all of Israel, the prime minister said.

Begin called for meticulous adherence to international agreements. Israel had shown the way by humoring — despite the pain — its undertakings in the Camp David accords, he said.

Turning to the question of settle-

ment in Judea and Samaria, the prime minister said that it was the right of Jews to live in all parts of Eretz Yisrael — with security. Unfavourable objective conditions, such as proximity in dense concentrations of Arab population or rocky land, had never before served as a brake on Jewish settlement.

Once again the prime minister said that Israel would welcome King Hussein's joining the peace negotiations, but would not agree to his laying down prior conditions.

Alignment chairman Shimon Peres, who led off for the opposition, said that negotiations with Jordan could get under way not only if the Jordanians do not insist on any prior conditions, but if Israel did not do so.

Hussein has every right to put forward a plan of his own, but not as a "prior condition."

Victor Shemtov (Alignment-Mapan) said that Mr. Begin must bear prime responsibility for having led the nation "into a cul de sac" in Lebanon, by not sticking to limited goals and not properly evaluating the realities of Lebanon.

If Begin had the courage to confess his failure, he would order the

troops home and settle for a 45-km. demilitarized security strip, he said.

Knesset Correspondent Asher Wallfish reports:

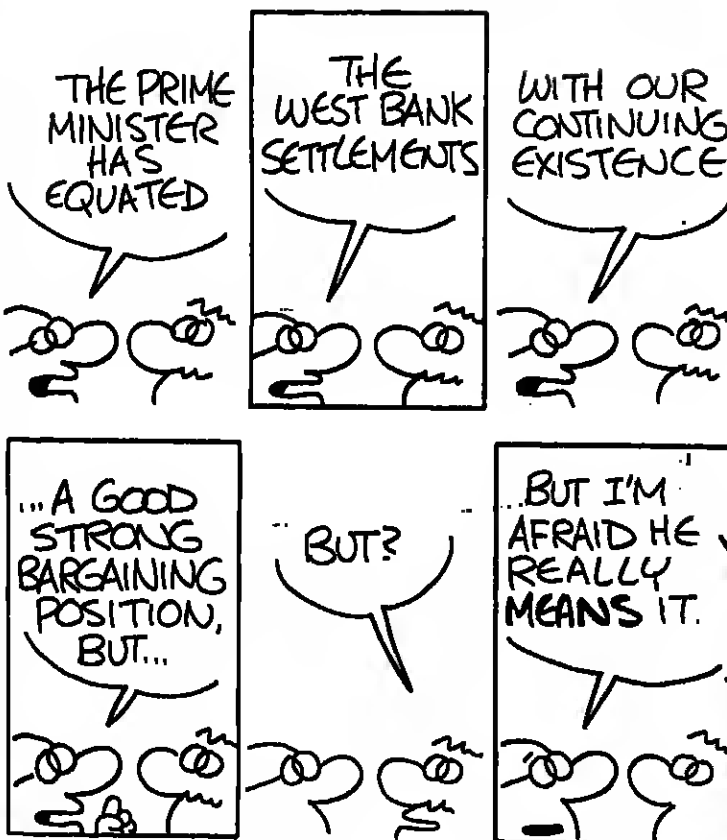
Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir warned last week that "superfluous statements highlighting the differences of opinion between Israel and the United States are merely exacerbating relations between our two countries to no purpose."

Speaking in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, Shamir left the impression that he was directing his rebuke as much at Defence Minister Ariel Sharon, as at the government's opposition critics.

Some of Shamir's listeners believed the foreign minister was dissociating himself from Sharon when he said that America's policy towards Lebanon should not be linked with America's policy towards the future of Judea and Samaria.

He said that the main problem in the negotiations with Lebanon was that the Lebanese delegation would not take any decision which was not acceptable to the U.S. "This militates against harmony between Israel and the United States."

## Dry Bones



## More would give land for peace

By MARK SEGAL  
Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. — There is a shift to the more moderate position among Israelis on territorial compromise over Judea and Samaria to achieve peace with Jordan.

This is one of the findings of a *Jerusalem Post* poll conducted by the Modi'in Ezrachi research institute among a representative sample of 1,929 adults in the last week of December and the first part of January.

Q. "Are you for or against a peace agreement with Jordan involving an Israeli commitment to leave territories in Judea and Samaria?"

Against — not an inch	42.4
For: all of Judea and Samaria excluding East Jerusalem	39.8
For: all of Judea and Samaria including East Jerusalem	11.8
Undecided	1.8
	4.2

In September of 1982 the percentage who were against giving up "an inch" was 52.

## A slap at Sheli

TEL AVIV. — In a calculated rebuff to the left-wing Sheli party, Mapam secretary-general Victor Shemtov came out strongly last week against any meetings with PLO representatives. This is seen as significant, since Mapam is the opposition Alignment's most dovish component and closest in outlook to Sheli, whose leaders recently met Yasser Arafat in Tunis.

Shemtov was addressing the Mapam council, where Mapam "hawks" strenuously objected to formulations which they charged might be construed as support for a Palestinian state.

## 466 died, 2,567 wounded in Lebanese operation

By HIRSH GOODMAN  
Post Defence Correspondent

The Israeli death toll in Operation Peace for Galilee is 466 killed and 2,567 wounded. These figures include all casualties in Lebanon, regardless of cause, up to last weekend.

Of the wounded, 138 remain under care, 49 of these recuperating at home; 85 are defined as having light injuries, three medium injuries and one still seriously wounded.

Of the 2,567 wounded, 1,985 men have returned to their original units; 235 were placed in new units due to a lower medical rating, while 186 were released from active service.

The overall casualty figures pertain to all members of the armed forces, and include the Tyre tragedy, where 75 men died when a military headquarters building collapsed, plus all accidents and soldiers killed in terror incidents.

A senior military officer said that contrary to rumours, there has not been a spate of suicides in Lebanon, but only two since the beginning of the war. Compared with the total number of suicides in the IDF in relation to the number of men deployed in any one area, this is way below average.

In general, the officer said that last year the suicide rate of men in uniform was half of that in previous years.

The officer disclosed that the IDF recently completed an in-depth study on the impact of the war on the morale of troops. The study showed, according to the officer, that 78 per cent of soldiers who were questioned felt they had been well prepared for war; over 80 per cent said they had "complete confidence" in the weapons they were using; 76 per cent said that there was teamwork in their units; over 80 per cent said they were impressed

by the leadership shown by their officers; and not a single soldier responded that he thought his unit had not attained the task set for it.

The number of volunteers for specialized units has not dropped since the war in Lebanon, but increased considerably, the senior officer said. Two call-ups since the war, in August and November, showed an increase in the number of volunteers, including from among kibbutz youth and others of left-oriented backgrounds.

There have been fewer than a dozen cases of men jailed for refusing to do military service in Lebanon, he reported, and there has been no increase in the five or six soldiers each year who have refused to do service in Judea, Samaria or Gaza over the past 10 years.

The average amount of reserve duty anticipated for the coming year depends on whether Israel remains in Lebanon. This fiscal year, fighting units served between 60 and 70 days, while specialists, drivers, communications personnel and military policeman completed 90 days. If the IDF withdraws, fighting units and most of the reserve pool will do 40 days, with around 60 days for specialists needed to refurbish war-damaged materiel during 1983/84. If the IDF does not withdraw, the minimum projection is an average of at least 60 days for all units.

## Detention camp costs

Post Defence Correspondent

The 5,412 prisoners being held at the Ansar detention camp are costing Israel \$1 million a day.

In addition to the detainees at Ansar, Israel is holding 293 Syrian prisoners of war, 24 of whom are officers. There are two full colonels and eight pilots.

## BACKGROUND

## Navon's hands were tied

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Yitzhak Navon will end his presidency with all his options open, but with no burning desire to be prime minister, despite his personal frustration over some of the policies and philosophy of the Begin government.

When he leaves Beit Hanassi in early May, at age 62, Navon will direct most of his energies to writing, either about the premiership of his patron and mentor, David Ben-Gurion, or to write a history of the Jews of Spain during the Inquisition, or a play. He will also be active in and speak out from time to time on various social and educational matters — immigration, the ethnic "gap" and national unity — that are close to his heart and which he nearly bored himself to death talking about at every occasion as president.

Never a ruthless or a driven politician, Navon is not likely to enter Labour Party politics if it involves a tooth-and-nail internal fight. He agreed to run for the presidency only when promised that no one would oppose him. But if he is presented with the necessary conditions in the party, he would apparently not rule out vying with a Likud candidate for the premiership. He could be nearly content with his writing and his status as a popular ex-president, but the temptation to make vital decisions for Israel — and not merely to speak about its greatness and its problems — could prove the stronger if the time and situation are right.

But those who expect him to jump right into the political fray after leaving Beit Hanassi are in for disappointment. He has reiterated many times that he would voluntarily accept a period of "cooling off" before returning to politics.

He might have been willing to continue as president for another year or two, if the term had been somewhat longer than five years. But Navon, though truly enjoying his innumerable encounters in development towns, settlements and factories with the grass-roots Israeli, had grown tired of the constant speeches, sometimes half-a-dozen times a day, at ceremonial occasions — from "outstanding employee" ceremonies to "knock on the door" charity campaigns.

He was also profoundly frustrated by having to remember he was president when pressed to comment about controversial matters. He defined the "unmentionables" as matters on which the majority of the Knesset did not agree: the future of the West Bank, the religious establishment and other matters of this nature he carefully sidestepped, but he did tread as close to the line as possible, without overstepping it, so as not to surrender his own self-respect. The political events of the past five years only frustrated him more.

He did not decide to leave because he was tired. He worked indefatigably in preparation for his U.S. tour last month, and lectured to dozens of American Jewish groups about Aliya and Jewish education as if convincing them depended solely on him. But he has tired of the presidency as an office.

His relations with Prime Minister Menachem Begin were not as tension-filled and formalistic as many supposed. Begin broke down, tears and hugged Navon when the president demonstrated his sympathy over the death of Aliza Begin by meeting him in front of his residence upon his return from the U.S. Navon also voiced his opinions on very controversial matters in tête-à-tête meetings with the premier, but he was aware that the impact of these encounters — the men coming from such different backgrounds and mentalities — was limited.

Although it had appeared that his wife Ofra had wanted to stay in Beit Hanassi despite ferocious press criticism of her, she apparently agreed with her husband's decision. The pressures of public exposure were partly responsible for nearly ending their 19-year marriage 10 months ago. The Navons had also worried about their children, Na'ama and Erez — five and four years old when they moved into Beit Hanassi — and their development in the goldfish bowl of the presidential residence.

Navon made his final decision nearly two months ago, but the process leading to it had taken many months. Only a select few had been taken into his confidence, but Navon was unable to smother Labour Party speculation that he would not seek another term.

He finally told his children a week ago Friday in broad hints, and on Sunday revealed it completely. He asked them not to disclose his plans at school, but to answer queries by saying that the news would be out later in the day.

The president was careful not to meet personally during the past two months with Labour Party leaders, including those in the Jerusalem branch who had been pushing him hard to announce political plans. Labour Party chairman Shimon Peres wasn't informed of Navon's decision beforehand, and learned of it from party officials who called him in France, where he was on a speaking tour.

Meanwhile, the Navons will look for an apartment, having sold the flat they had been building a few years ago. And the parties will have to find a candidate to fill the office, which has been substantially expanded and enhanced by Yitzhak Navon.



Navon felt the need

to "thank God for granting me the special privilege of serving the nation as president of Israel. I am indebted to the members of the Knesset who gave me their confidence and elected me to this high office. They were of the coalition and of the opposition, and this fact will remain with me forever."

The president added that "the great majority of the nation" was very kind to him, and showered him and his wife Ofra and their family with warmth and encouragement. "From the depths of a loving heart, I want to express our deep thanks to all sectors of the public for their support for us all along. We will be grateful as long as we live."

He also thanked Prime Minister Begin for the "relations of gentlemanliness and mutual respect" that prevailed between the two. The same relations also existed, he said, with the rest of the cabinet.

He praised his wife, "without whom I couldn't have properly fulfilled my responsibilities as president; who stood by my side with good counsel, in thought and in deed." He thanked the Beit Hanassi staff for their faithfulness and devotion.

"I did not reach my decision lightly or hastily," Navon concluded. "I know that many citizens will be sorry about this move. I'm sorry to cause them disappointment, but I can act only according to my logic and my own feelings. Every parting is difficult, and from the presidency is certainly so. I leave my position in sadness but with no misgivings."

In editorial comment in the Hebrew press *Ha'arets* (Independent) praised Navon, who, it said, has fulfilled all that is expected of a president — to remain above the political arena and to "embody the unity of the nation and express the shared aspirations of all its segments" — at a time when "this must not always have been easy for him." The paper lauded the outgoing president's ability to win the sympathy of all sectors of the Israeli populace, his broad culture, and his refusal to allow the honours accorded him to go to his head.

Al Hamishmar (Mapam) called Navon "the people's president" who has symbolized, in the paper's words, "a sane, thoughtful, cultured Israel, which knows its place in the world and doesn't endeavour to play at empire — above all, an Israel which ties its future to the future of the peoples of the Middle East... Yitzhak Navon should be the Labour Party's natural candidate for the premiership, not just because of his popularity in the opinion polls, but because of his own qualities."

Ha'aretz (NRP) was more reserved in its judgment of Navon, implicitly criticizing him for never having denied reports while in office that he would hand an Alignment list after leaving that office.

Ma'ariv (Independent) noted that neither the parties nor the public considers Navon's announced retirement to private life to be final.

Yediot Achronot (Independent) regretted Navon's decision despite what it sees as "a public desire that he continue in an office where he was an outstanding success in converting that office from one without particular influence to one of the most effective positions in the state, thereby contributing much to calming this shocked and divided nation."

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(Isaiah 60:13a & 14 — passage to be read in relation with Israel's predicted Messianic role in coming world redemption, as described in part in Gen. 22 & 28.) Bible Light International.

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## Phalange on terror spree in Sidon

By CHARLES HOFFMAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Phalange in the Sidon area have launched a campaign of intimidation and murder against Palestinians in the area to force them either to leave or to move into a ghetto around the Ein Hilwe refugee camp, according to a reliable source in contact with the IDF in Lebanon.

Seven bodies of Palestinians recently murdered were found in recent days outside Ein Hilwe, the source said. These are in addition to the five bodies of Palestinians found about two weeks ago, whom the IDF determined had been murdered about four or five months ago.

The Phalange have also made oral threats or sent threatening letters to Palestinian residents outside the camp, warning them that they can expect "similar treatment" unless they move out. Some 10 families have left already, although it is not clear if they had been occupying flats rented from Lebanese or their own apartments.

A number of high-rise apartment buildings for Palestinians were built in the centre of Sidon during the PLO regime.

The IDF spokesman in Tel Aviv could only confirm that "five or six" bodies of Palestinians had been found recently, and did not know if the murders were politically motivated.

There are about 18,000 Palestinians living in the Ein Hilwe camp and at least twice that number in other parts of Sidon.

It is significant that the threats were reportedly made against the Palestinians living in Lebanon since 1948, many of whom have become established economically and seek to remain permanently in Lebanon. Most of the radical Palestinians and PLO supporters were drawn from those who arrived in the 1970s, and most of this group fled north or east to Syrian-controlled territory during the war.

## Officials say U.S. had early word of massacre

By WOLF BLITZER  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — U.S. intelligence agencies picked up information of the Sabra and Shatilla massacres as early as Thursday night, September 16, well-placed U.S. officials confirmed last week. They were reacting to a report in the London *Sunday Times*.

The information, they said, consisted of an intercepted cable sent from the Israeli military command in Beirut to staff headquarters in Tel Aviv. That message reported that some 300 "terrorists and civilians" had been killed by the Phalange militiamen in the camps by that evening.

Since September, the State Department, the Pentagon and the White House have consistently denied having any advance information of the massacres. They have confirmed only that there were some "rumours," but no hard evidence.

As soon as Washington learned what was going on, the Reagan administration has maintained, it took strenuous efforts to stop the massacres.

The U.S. officials said the intercepted cable did not raise many alarm bells in Washington that evening. It was only on the next day, they said, that U.S. policy-makers became concerned. It was also then that more "concrete" evidence of the mass killings became known.

As a result, U.S. officials pointed out last week special U.S. Middle East ambassador Morris Draper raised the reports of the killings on Friday with the Israeli Foreign Ministry's Beirut representative, Bruce Kashdan. Kashdan has testified before the Kahan commission of inquiry that he relayed Draper's protest directly to the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem. Draper has refused all public comment on the issue.

Well-placed sources in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, meanwhile, confirmed yesterday that a key committee staff member, Graeme Bannerman, had informed other staff members by late Friday morning, Washington time, that he, too, had received some information of the massacres.

Later in the afternoon, these sources said, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Lawrence Eagleburger testified before the committee in closed-door session.

Eagleburger, however, was not asked about the reports, although at least one unnamed senator was said to have been alerted by Bannerman. According to committee sources, other senators were informed by their staff members of the Bannerman information only after the secret Eagleburger hearing had ended — around 6 p.m. Washington time, which then corresponded to midnight Israel time. That was long after Draper had raised the issue with Kashdan. It was also after Defence Minister Ariel Sharon said that he first learned of the massacres.

Bannerman, a former Middle East specialist at the State Department's bureau of intelligence and research, was unavailable for comment yesterday. His wife said he was out of town visiting a sick relative.

Senator Paul Tsongas, a Democrat on the committee, called on *The Sunday Times* to name the members who it said knew about the massacre but failed to pass the information on to the Israeli government.

"It really strikes me as rather inconceivable that anybody on the committee would have had that kind of information," he said in a radio interview.

Senator Larry Pressler, a Republican committee member, said he was also sceptical about *The Sunday Times* report.

## French minister pledges friendship

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — French Interior Minister Gaston Defferre, who arrived in Haifa early last week, declared his unwavering friendship for Israel and gave an assurance that the Franco-Israeli cultural treaty would be renewed.

"It will be signed and there are no problems about it," Defferre said. "The deep positive feelings for Israel still exist."

This visit is the first by a French minister since the cooling of relations in the course of the Lebanon war.

Defferre, whose visit marks the 20th anniversary of the twinning of Haifa and Marseille, said he regretted there is no further information on the attacks of Jo Goldenberg's delicatessen in Paris or on the attacks of other Jewish targets in France.

But, he said, the government has set up a secret apparatus that will prevent such outrages in the future. "We are taking steps," he said. Defferre is travelling with his wife and a party of 15.

## Poll on arms sales to dictatorships

TEL AVIV. — Most Israelis believe Israel should refrain from selling arms to racist and dictatorial regimes, with the rest divided between those ignoring the internal nature of the purchasing country and those who feel that Israel should sell arms only to democracies.

These are some of the findings of a *Jerusalem Post* poll conducted by the Modi'in Erachi research institute.

Q. In general, should Israel take into account the kind of internal regime of the country to which it sells arms (or other services)?

	All Respondents	Pro-Likud	Pro-Labour
Sell to any country irrespective of regime	27.5	32.8	23.2
Don't sell to racist and dictatorial regimes	35.2	34.0	36.4
Sell only to democracies	27.9	26.0	32.0
Undecided	9.4	7.2	8.4



## No new trial for Baranes?

By D'VORA BEN-SHAUL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir said last week he will not recommend to the president of the Supreme Court that convicted murderer Amos Baranes be granted a new trial.

Zamir said, however, that if Baranes, who is serving a life sentence for the 1974 murder of 19-year-old Ruhel Heller, asks for a new trial, he might recommend granting the application.

It was a report by Yehudit Karp, Zamir's assistant, that triggered the police investigation into possible perjury at Baranes' trial. A Supreme Court decision last month cleared Shaul Marcus, who was chief investigator in the case, of perjury.

Zamir said that if Marcus' conviction of perjury in the Jerusalem District court had been upheld by the Supreme Court, this would have been grounds for an attorney-general to recommend a new trial without any application by the convicted person.

The only other situations, said Zamir, are if another person is found guilty of the crime or if evidence is brought forth that was not available at the time of the trial. Zamir expects that the next step will be Baranes' applying to the president of the Supreme Court for a new trial.

Baranes, who is held in Rumle Prison, was shocked last week when he heard Zamir would not ask for a retrial.

"They want to free me to beg for pardon. That I shall never do. I shall either be acquitted or die here in prison," Baranes said.

POSTAGE. — In response to inquiries from some readers the cost of sending an ordinary internal letter in Israel is IS2.20.

## More aid sought from SA

By AVI TEMKIN  
Post Economic Reporter

Finance Minister Yoram Aridor is hoping to conclude negotiations on increased aid for Israel during his visit to South Africa this week, *The Jerusalem Post* learns.

Israel and South Africa signed an agreement of economic and commercial cooperation five years ago. Israel is asking South Africa for increased credits and better trade conditions under the agreement.

In particular, Israel is seeking increased credit for both manufactured products and for coal, which it buys from South Africa. The coal is used to fuel the Hadera power station.

Israel is also asking South Africa to reduce the customs duty imposed on Israeli products. South Africa raised its customs rates some months ago, which adversely affected the sale of Israeli products there.

Israel is also proposing that the South African government establish joint industrial ventures with Israel, and Aridor will present specific proposals.

Another item the minister will raise concerns the expansion of Israeli fishing rights in South African waters.

## Sir Alan Cunningham dies at 95

Sir Alan Gordon Cunningham, the last British high commissioner in Palestine, died in London on January 11. He was 95.

Cunningham was born of Scottish parents in Dublin on May 1, 1887. He was a professional soldier who served with the Royal Artillery in World War I and played an important part in the liberation of Ethiopia and Libya during World War II.

He was appointed high commissioner and commander-in-chief of Palestine and high commissioner of Jordan on November 9, 1945, in succession to Field Marshal Viscount Gort.

Cunningham arrived here on November 21 when the Jewish community was intensifying its struggle for free immigration.

His first action was to lift the curfew imposed on Tel Aviv and the main highways. But Cunningham was unable to change either British official policy or Jewish resolve, to fight it.

He left Palestine on May 14, 1948 aboard the HMS Euryalus, ending almost 28 years of British civil administration. Cunningham was subsequently knighted in London.

## Noted biologist Salomon Spiegelman

Distinguished American Jewish scientist and educator Prof. Sol (Salomon) Spiegelman died in New York on January 22. He was a world-famous biologist, who made an outstanding contribution to the understanding of basic life processes and the mechanism of gene regulation. His work facilitated studies on malignancy.

Spiegelman was born in New York on December 14, 1914 and educated there. For over 20 years, he was a professor of microbiology at the University of Illinois and from 1969, director of the Institute of Cancer Research and professor of human genetics and development at Columbia University.

In 1965, Spiegelman headed the international team of scientists who succeeded in artificially creating a self-duplicating life-like substance in a test tube. It was a breakthrough in that it permitted analysis of the way nucleic acids replicate.

The prestigious Pasteur Award was one of his numerous awards and honours.

Spiegelman was a devoted friend of Israel and a frequent visitor here. He worked closely with the Hebrew University and the Weizmann Institute of Science, both of which presented him with honorary doctorates. In 1975, he participated in all Israeli conference organized as a protest against the persecution of Jewish scientists in the Soviet Union.

## The defence of American folly

By SHMUEL KATZ

U.S. AMBASSADOR Samuel Lewis provided an illuminating lesson in practical diplomacy at the Haifa Rotary Club recently. His defence of U.S. policy on Lebanon was couched in soothing terms, and because Sam Lewis is well-liked, some people were perhaps reassured. In fact, his remarks rather confirmed than allayed the suspicions aroused by American policy.

"It is not U.S. policy," said Lewis "to steal the fruits of Israel's victory." The critics of that policy, however, had not said that the U.S. was "stealing" the fruits. What we said was that Washington was going to great lengths simply to deny Israel those fruits.

Now everybody knows that ever since the end of the war, Washington has been advising the

opposes vigorously. Moreover it continues to work for the elimination of Major Sa'ad Haddad's militia of Christians and Moslems — the only Lebanese force so far that has defended its hearth and home against PLO terror.

Ambassador Lewis's government is thus resisting the only proposed measures that promise to keep Arafat's barbarians out of Southern Lebanon. What does this mean if not that Washington has no qualms about the potential restoration of a PLO "establishment" in Lebanon? This logic may sound outrageous — but these are the facts and they are, after all, in complete harmony with our experience in the seven years before 1982 — when Washington looked on in evident indifference at the PLO (and Syrian) atrocities and roused itself only to denounce (and finally to "punish") Israel for its efforts to contain the PLO scourge.

The cynicism of U.S. policy has been dramatically illustrated by events in Beirut. There American authorities revealed reluctantly that PLO terrorists were emerging unhindered from the area controlled by the Marines to attack IDF soldiers and were then returning unhindered to that area, into which, by agreement, the IDF are forbidden to penetrate. In their discussions on the subject with Israeli representatives, the Americans made it plain that their non-interference was deliberate. They explained it. The Marines, they said, are a "peace force," and must not be expected to fight the terrorists.

Reagan himself has reinforced these tidings by saying that it is not the Marines' job to serve as policemen in Beirut. They are there only to help the Lebanese Army maintain order.

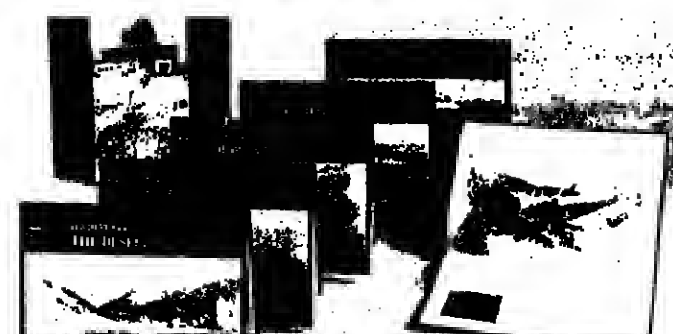
The PLO is therefore already re-establishing itself in Beirut by consent of the American Marines, who will do nothing to stop them from doing what they wish. How long will it be then before chaos and bloodshed rule again in Beirut? Are we not entitled to ask: if the Marines do not propose to take action to prevent PLO infiltration in any direction, what are they doing in Beirut at all, except to serve as a sanctuary and to watch the building in "their" area of a new infrastructure for resumed PLO activity?

IN CALLING upon Israel not to "force the pace" (in seeking what Israel regards as the only realistic guarantee of its security, and indeed of some stability for Lebanon), Mr. Lewis declared that Lebanon "is still a fragile nation, barely able to hold its head above water." He did not hint at the reason why Lebanon is a fragile nation, and who it was that pressed and held its head beneath water.

It is surely not irrelevant to mention that Lebanon was all but smashed completely by the other Arab nations (and the PLO). It is they who pressed upon Lebanon the cancerous presence of the PLO. They "decided" to let Syria loose in Lebanon as a "peace-keeping" force. They encouraged, financed and, in collaboration with the Soviet

Now Israel is insisting on what can only be described as the minimal "fruits of victory", no massive physical presence in Lebanon but the maintenance of intelligence equipment to be manned by Israeli soldiers for alerting Israel's security establishment to signs of terrorist reorganization. This Washington

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JUST AS a dangerous malsdy can often only be cured with a rare, hitherto untried medicine, intricate political situations require unique, non-conventional treatment. As Israel is in a state of serious national malsise, one has to look for imaginative solutions which might help extricate it from the morass.

It is in this context that one has to consider the prospects of President Yitzhak Navon's future involvement in active politics, once he has relinquished his high office, possibly as prime minister at the nation's helm.

Only a few days have passed since Navon announced officially that he will not seek a second term as president, and political pundits on both the left and the right are already hard at work destroying the halo he acquired in his lofty position. It does not require a great deal of imagination to predict how much more whitening away of popularity and high esteem we are likely to witness during the remaining three months of his presidency, still more in the course of his self-imposed cooling-off period which is expected to last until the end of the summer.

These immediate reactions may perhaps be a blessing in disguise, for they must have driven the message home to Navon that in the cruel world of politics nothing is presented on a silver platter. To demonstrate the strength of one's convictions, one has to plunge into the mudstom head first. That applies no less to a former president, Israel style, who wishes to contend for national political leadership.

SO MUCH of what has been said about Navon these past few days, has betrayed either fear of the im-

## Voices of reason

By ARI RATH

pect he may have on Israel's political scene or despondent fatalism that nothing can change the steadily increasing trend of nationalist extremism.

The claim has been made that Navon would in fact not be returning to active politics in a leading position, since he has never held a post higher than that of political secretary to Israel's first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion and chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee.

Moreover, his first two attempts to be elected Knesset speaker and president — in 1973 — were blocked by the majority of his own Labour Party. What has not even been recalled is that in 1974 his former Ruffi faction colleagues failed to endorse his candidacy for a ministerial post in former premier Yitzhak Rabin's cabinet, preferring Chai Yehonati over him.

There are those who say that, with his courteous, humane and often soft-spoken manner, Navon is not premiership timber. People who worked with him in the Prime Minister's Office under Ben-Gurion, remember a certain lack of decisiveness and seem to detect it in him to this day. A staunch Likud supporter, on the other hand, recalling Navon's moderate, often forthright, dovish views went as far as saying in a radio interview that Navon would be Washington's candidate and choice for premier.

WHAT ALL THESE arguments fail to take into account is Navon's

great popularity with wide sections of the population and the fact that, in addition to his experience of working for over a decade with a prime minister like Ben-Gurion, his personal stature has risen considerably during the five years of his presidency.

Moreover, Navon would be very well suited to head a leadership team that could give the nation much-needed new guidance.

But one of the glaring misconceptions in the current public debate over Navon's political future — a debate in which, far the time being, he is forced to keep silent — is that it is being conducted in the most conventional political terms, taking into account merely the existing party frameworks. Thus, one keeps on hearing questions and suggestions what would happen if Navon eventually became chairman of the Labour Party instead of his old friend Shimon Peres, who then would be the candidate for the post of deputy premier and perhaps foreign minister. There is already talk about urging Yitzhak Rabin to withdraw once and for all from his fight for the number one post, agreeing to be satisfied with becoming Labour's candidate for the defence portfolio.

Thus, with un eye to the next elections — which may, after all, take place towards the end of this year — the Labour Alignment ought to join forces with other more

moderate and more reasonable political groupings to create a new alliance of the voices of reason. That would mean forming, prior to the elections, what would in effect be a coalition with a centre party, partly of true Liberal stock, and possibly even with a more moderate religious group.

The first 15 or 20 names on the Knesset list of such an alliance ought to include some of the best people Israel has to offer in terms of national leadership. Thus, men like Ezer Weizman, Yitzhak Mordechai, Avraham (Buma) Shavit and, Amnon Goldenberg could lead this Alliance, together with Shimon Peres, Yitzhak Rabin, Yisrael Kolsar, Aharon Yariv, Shlomo Gatzert and even Avraham Burg, the son of the interior minister, with Yitzhak Navon heading the team.

Such a move will require a great deal of understanding and personal concessions on the part of the front bench party functionaries who will have to sacrifice ambitions for the sake of the broader national interest. But their place in the regular party structures would certainly be safeguarded.

Navon will not play the role of either a Charles de Gaulle or a Yigael Yadin. But his appeal to reason, advocating concessions for the sake of peace and security as the head of a new national leadership team, could go a long way towards convincing crucial sections of the electorate that the path of power and arrogance can lead to the brink of a national abyss, if not beyond.

With vision and political selflessness, an imaginative move towards a new alliance could still lead this nation back to the true, humane values of a not yet too distant past.

problems and dangers inherent in Israel's current great national debate, the outcome of which will determine the face and the fate of its people for generations. It is the debate over the crucial question of whether Israel is to adhere to the tenets of nationalist extremism and hold on forever to the areas of historical Eretz Yisrael, as defined by the British Mandate's partition of Palestine in the early 1920s, which created Transjordan; or whether reason, political realism and moderation are to prevail for the sake of eventual peace and good neighbourly co-existence with the Palestinian Arabs who live on part of the biblical land.

That debate has become even more acute now that the eight-month war in Lebanon has made a solution of the Palestinian problem that much more urgent — and perhaps even feasible — while stepped-up settlement activities in the West Bank threaten to close even the remaining political options.

BUT AS this major national debate transcends existing party lines, threatening to exacerbate ethnic and social rifts with rabble-rousing nationalist rhetoric, new alliances will have to be formed which will give true expression to the political credo that is at issue.

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THE IMMEDIATE outcome of the meeting between PLO chief Yasser Arafat and Sheli's Motllyahu Peled is a move towards a split in that small leftist party. The final straw was the verbal fight between Peled and Sheli Hladrut delegate Ron Cohen — the ex-general charged kibbutnik reserve colonel Cohen with having committed "crimes against humanity" while commanding a unit in the recent fighting in Lebanon; the latter retorted that Peled seemed to have changed his attitude towards Israel's forces since he doffed his uniform. Cohen's friends are hurt. They say, "Peled never said such things about Arafat, did he?"

ALTHOUGH it was published last week that the late Arthur Rubinstein left a bequest to the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, it is not known that the will named two other Israeli beneficiaries. They are a relative, Mrs. Hanna Waldman of Tel Aviv, and the projected Reuven Robin Museum.

A DIFFERENT ZION, Eduard Kuznetsov, the former Prisoner of Zion, spoke only Russian during his TV appearances for the Soviet immigrants' list in the 1981 election. He'll now be using his native tongue even more, as he is due to move to Munich to become news director of Radio Liberty, which broadcasts to the Soviet Union.

YANKEE GET-TOGETHER. It was standing-room-only and then some at the Jerusalem Plaza last Monday night for a showing of the tape of the previous day's Super Bowl game for the U.S. professional football championship. With more potential ticket-buyers than seats in the 300-place ballroom, the crowd overflowed to suites on the hotel's 12th floor.

## Falashas tell UJA group how they knew of Israel

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter  
HAIFA. — "We are happy that you have remembered us and come to visit us, as the angels of God visited Abraham our father. May the Lord bless you," a venerable Falasha *cohen* (priest) told a group of United Jewish Appeal delegates at the Atlit absorption centre last week. The visitors, on the UJA's President's Mission, were the first to visit the Falashas at the centre, where they are staying.

The Falashas refer to themselves as "Ben-Israel," House of Israel.

The dark-skinned priest, who is 82, received the visitors in his apartment lounge, while his wife withdrew into a darkened room out of sight. Swathed in white robes with a white turban on his head, he was holding a flyswish. "Just like a witch-doctor," one of the American visitors remarked, as they sat their easels and started clicking.

The *cohen* speaks no Hebrew and talked with them through an interpreter. He agreed to show them the *Tora*, said to be 200 years old, which he had brought with him from his Ethiopian village.

From a rough leather satchel he brought out a large tome, bound in woad and wrapped in a colourful cloth tied with a rope for safety. The text, in the Ge'ez language, is handwritten in black and red, on parchment pages, with three columns on each page, and is quite unlike the traditional *Tora* scroll. He leafed through it to find the Ten Commandments in Ge'ez.

Asked how in their out-of-the-way villages the Falashas had known about Israel, the *cohen* smiled. "Is it not written in the *Tora* that the Land of Israel is our homeland? Are we not the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob,



United Jewish Appeal leaders meet with Falashas at the Atlit absorption centre.

(Yitzhak Fish)

Aharon, Moses and Solomon? (He used this form of the name of the wisest of kings. And not the Hebrew "Shlomo"). We knew that Israel had become independent and we heard of its wars and its victories," he explained.

The centre staff confirmed that the Falashas are "more Zionist and more Jewish than ourselves" and despite their settling-in difficulties, they have no thought of leaving the country.

They also stressed their great thirst for learning. On arrival, many of them were illiterate, but soon the children wanted to skip the breaks between their lessons and not "waste time" on handicrafts, preferring to devote every moment in the

classroom to Hebrew and mathematics.

All of them engaged in primitive agriculture in their villages, but here the younger men are taking Labour Ministry basic vocational courses. One problem that is already troubling the absorption officials is their demand to be taught specific trades so that they can get skilled work.

Meanwhile, those already working at the Atlit salt works and other factories are "working very hard, so much so that they have run into trouble with the Israeli veterans, who fear they will disturb the easy norms balance." Most don't want to be farm workers, though a group of Falasha farmers is being established at Kiryat Gat.

The big-eyed children were soon favourite camera studies for the American visitors, who were visibly touched by the meeting.

Asked how they were acclimatizing, staff member Tania Carmeli said that their exposure to Israelis had already led them to put forward demands, such as far washing machines, before moving into permanent housing in Carmiel and elsewhere in the country. They also were not eager to leave the sheltered and protected atmosphere of the centre yet. Because of their primitive background, it takes them longer than other immigrants to make their own way.

The biggest physical problem they brought with them are African

illnesses, particularly intestinal parasites and a pernicious species of skin worm, which are being treated at the Carmel Hospital in Haifa where a physician is specializing in their ills. Meanwhile, experts from Tel Aviv University are studying the "Tora book."

Some of the men have taken to wearing little knitted skullcaps, pinned to their curly hair. They said that at home, few wore headcovers, except the *cohen*, but they are getting used to them here.

Their religious beliefs are very strong, the centre staff told the visitors, and these are of a fundamentalist character, based on the written word of the *Tora*. Their *kashrut*, for instance, concentrates mainly on keeping milk and meat apart.

The rabbinate has put all of them through a process of "samiz-conversion," and does not recognise their *cohen*. But a younger *cohen* at Atlit is being trained for ordination by the rabbinate.

Their most zealously kept *mitzva* is that of the ritual purity of women. But since their arrival, there has been a quiet revolution at the centre, whose long-term impact cannot be foreseen. The women "have noticed very clearly" that the centre is run by women, while the male staff "does the hard work," and they are starting to assert themselves.

Another social problem is the fact that the children learn much faster, and within months have by-passed the adults in knowledge and skills, upsetting the age-old balance of Falasha families. But the staff are confident that their love of Israel will help overcome all problems in time.

## A place at the top

PRESIDENT Yitzhak Navon has announced that he'll stay out of politics — at least for a while — after he leaves Beit Hanassi in May. But if he had the desire to participate, he could have walked into Labour Party headquarters at 110 Rehov Hayarkon in Tel Aviv last week and taken over.

That's not only because of Navon's popularity. It's also because the three top party men were overseas. Party leader Shimon Peres was in Paris when Navon made his announcement on Monday, while Yitzhak Rabin was in the U.S. on a speaking tour. And party secretary-general Haim Bar-Lev was also away, in Australia on behalf of Keren Hayesod.

Peres, who cannot be happy about his consistently dismal showing in the polls, has been making friendly noises in Navon's direction. But those in the know say that the party leader has not yet given up his long-held aspirations for the premiership.

SO WHO will be Israel's sixth president? That question will occupy our pundits for some time. Prime Minister Menachem Begin is said to be not unresponsive to the possible nomination of National Religious Party leader Dr. Yosef Burg. But Herut sources say that the premier is fearful about the effect of a Burg nomination on the NRP and the coalition. Also making Herut's uncomfortable in this context are the dovish statements made lately by her apparent (and Likud minister) Ze'ulun Hammer of the NRP Youth Circles, and the fact that a Burg exit would strengthen the resurgent party hand of Dr. Yitzhak Rabin, whose anti-Likud views are well known.

GRIPE of the week came from NRP MK Avraham Melamed,

responding to Herut MK Michael Reiser's suggestion of a four-year "cooling off" period for past presidents. Cried Melamed: "Your bill is not aimed at Navon, it's directed at Burg. You'll be chasing his political options." (Burg, who celebrated his 74th birthday last week, would be 79 at the end of a five-year Beit Hanassi term.)

THE NAME of Shlomo Hillel has already been floated in Labour circles, but I hear that several party MKs are canvassing support for Chaim Herzog. They have had some encouraging response from the divided Agudat Yisrael Party, where both Gerer Rebbe Shmha Bunim Alter and Bnei Brak Mitnaged chieftain Rabbi Eliezer Schneer have professed respect for Herzog's late father, Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Hahery Herzog. The fact that Herzog's son is married to the daughter of World Sephardi Federation President Nessim Gaon could also be helpful in gaining Knesset support from Aharon Tsan and Aharon Abuhatzela.

TELLING ALL. The long-awaited first instalment of the biography of Deputy Premier David Levy, by Elisha Aharoni columnist Arye Avneri, was published last week in the afternoon paper. In it, Levy discloses that, as a youth, he was forced to sell his mother's jewelry to pay for food for the family. We've learned that, in a later instalment, Levy discloses his feelings about Defence Minister Ariel Sharon. One statement: "We are not from the same village. We have different perceptions of the value of truth."

KEEPING A SECRET. It seems a little strange that Sharon's publicity

PUBLIC FACES  
Mark Segal



Yusef Burg



Shlomo Hillel

troups used the phrase "secret visit to Beirut" when they showered the

local press last week with photos of Arik in the Lebanese capital.

The clandestine nature of the trip can also be gauged from the *Le Monde* report that an American diplomat stalked out of a classy East Beirut restaurant where Sharon entertained a party of 12 for lunch.

FINANCE MINISTER Yoram Aridor did not need astrologist Ilan Pecker's forecast of continuing instability in the stock market in coming year to give him material for concern. He's got his hands full denying rumours of an impending 20 per cent devaluation of the shekel, after his Liberal colleague, Industry and Trade Minister Gideon Palti, has been talking about devaluation.

If there is to be a devaluation, there's little time for it because Aridor is this week flying to South Africa on the first state mission of an Israeli finance minister to the Republic. This is a return visit to that of his South African counterpart, Owen Harwood.

AS THE APRIL 15 deadline for changing of the guard at IDF HQ approaches, speculation increases about the successor to Rafael (Rafal) Eitan. He is heckling his old pal, Aluf Arigdar (Yanush) Ben-Gal, while I've told Shimon wants Entebhe rescue mission commander Dan Shomron. The latter's initial disadvantage with Shimon (his kibbutz background) has reportedly been overcome by Shomron's helpfulness with the Sharon defence team appearing before the Kithon Commission. There is talk of Rafal's deputy, Mashe Levi, being a compromise candidate.

## Arab school truancy

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — More than half the Arab children aged 6 to 16 in Jaffa do not go to school at all, states a survey conducted recently among Jaffa's Arab population by the Committee for Jaffa's Arabs. The survey was carried out for the Knesset Economic Committee, which discussed the economic plight of Jaffa's Arabs last year.

The children and youths who do not study are either employed, in violation of the law, at various jobs, or wander in the streets, where many fall into criminal activity. Attorney Nassim Shakar, a member of the Committee for Jaffa's Arabs, said last week. "This situation is a result of a deliberate policy of neglect, aimed at getting Arabs to leave Jaffa," he charged.

Out of 4,030 Arab children of compulsory education age, only 1,918 — 48 per cent — go to school, according to the survey. It notes that there is no supervision or enforcement of the Compulsory Education Law among Jaffa's Arabs, as there is in the Jewish sectors.

The absence of Arab children from school is caused, according to the survey, by the low standard of studies, the lack of libraries, psychological advisers and special education classes, the parents' economic plight which does not enable the children to study at

home, and the lack of supervision of pupils' attendance at school.

The Arab community in Jaffa has two elementary schools, one high school and a vocational high school, in which only 20 to 30 pupils come from Jaffa itself (the rest come from Ramle and Lod). There are also four private schools, belonging to the different churches.

The standard of education is higher in the private schools, the survey notes, but they cost more than IS7,200 a month, and few Jaffa families can afford them.

"The situation today, in which hundreds of youths gather in the streets, and the increasing bitterness, resembles a keg of dynamite which can explode at any minute," chairman of the Moalem Wofk trust Abed Kabub said.

Kabub noted that no effort is made by the authorities to trace children who do not go to school or to enforce the Compulsory Education Law. In Neve Zahal, the city recently filed charges against 24 parents for not registering their children in schools. In Jaffa, nothing is done, he said.

COOPERATION. — The Hebrew University and the University of Paris VIII have signed an agreement for cooperation in the area of language traditions and the languages of the Oriental and Sephardi Jewish Communities.



## Travels with Shakespeare

Ian McKellen, who is said to be both the "greatest Shakespearean actor alive" (critic Harold Hobson) and a modest man (unattributed) arrived in Israel last week for his second visit. His one-man touring show is described as "an actor's view of Shakespeare through the last 400 years," and it will be performed seven times during his 10-day stay.

He was leading man with the Royal Shakespeare Company from 1974-78, and organized its tour throughout Britain with *Twelfth Night* and *Three Sisters*. His own travels have frequently taken him to the U.S. and Europe, sometimes leaving Shakespeare behind.

M.P.

## UJA 'winter mission' pledges 33% more

The 150 participants in the Second Winter Presidents' Mission of the United Jewish Appeal last week pledged a total of \$2 million to the regular campaign, compared to \$1.5m. last year. They also pledged \$400,000 to the special Operation Peace for Galilee fund and \$300,000 to Project Renewal.

The members of the four-day mission made these pledges at the mission's closing dinner in the Knesset, where they were addressed by Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

Begin told them: "Israel wants security arrangements in Lebanon because without them everything may be repeated." He urged that the Camp David agreement be implemented, noting that the breaking of international agreements helped the Nazis come to power 50 years ago.

## Smallest Israel Bond may be \$1,000

By CHARLES HOFFMAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The younger groups of Israel Bonds leaders are trying to block the proposal now being considered to eliminate the \$250 unit possibly the \$500 bonds, on the grounds that the move will drastically reduce the numbers of younger purchasers.

If the proposal is passed, the smallest bond would then be \$1,000. The Bonds leadership recently discussed eliminating the lowest denominations, often given as Bar mitzva or wedding gifts, following changes in U.S. tax laws. These changes are expected to significantly increase overhead expenses in handling the smaller denominations and may also make them financially less attractive.

The Treasury, which supervises the sale of bonds, reportedly supports the proposal. A special committee convened

during last month's Bonds conference in Jerusalem to discuss the proposal and a representative of the young leadership. Ron Krungold, expressed this group's vigorous opposition to the move.

Many members of this forthright and under group at the conference said that new binds buyers are usually attracted by the lower denominations. If this possibility is eliminated, they said, the ranks of funds purchasers will not be replenished, and many potential buyers of larger bonds will be lost.

VISITORS. — Running Chief Rabbi Dr. David Mashe Rosen has arrived with his wife for an extended stay in Israel. During his stay he will complete arrangements for the founding of a chair in his name at Bar-Ilan University dedicated to the study of Eastern European Jewish culture.



## CONTROVERSY

IN A discussion on Israel's security requirements, Ambassador Moshe Arens and World Jewish Congress President Edgar Bronfman last week openly but politely disagreed about the appropriateness of Diaspora Jews criticizing official Israeli governmental positions.

"The antagonists of dissent have always had one final argument — the security of Israel," Bronfman told Jewish community leaders from 25 countries attending the biennial meeting of the WJC's governing board in Washington. "Jews of the Diaspora were told — and with a mixture of guilt and realism they accepted — that since neither they, nor their children, nor their grandchildren could be called upon to risk their lives in defending Israel, they could not have any voice whatsoever in determining what constitutes or does not constitute a threat to Israel's security."

But Bronfman, whose opening address strongly defended the right of Diaspora Jews in publicly debate official Israeli positions, went on to say that "given the peace with Egypt, given the destruction of the PLO's military capability, given the now apparent superiority of the Israel Defence Forces over any combination of Arab forces in the region, the 'security of the state' issue can no longer be the ultimate promise."

Arens, speaking after Bronfman, said he wanted to "take issue" with that line of thinking. "It is not the first time that I have heard it said," the Israeli ambassador said, noting that it recently had become popular in Washington to refer to Israel as "Goliath," rather than "Little David."

"That's not true," Arens said. "Israel is still Little David." Israel has been able to defend

What should Diaspora Jews do if they disagree with the Israel government's policies? This question has come prominently — and painfully — to the fore since the launching of Operation Peace for Galilee last year. The reports on this page reflect the anguished debate now going on in the American Jewish community.

## Case for dissent

By WOLF BLITZER / Washington

Israel, Arens said, only by "straining every fibre of our muscles." He noted that some 30 per cent of Israel's gross national product was devoted to defence spending — as opposed to only 6 per cent in the U.S.

Thus, Arens said, when it comes to determining how Israel should best defend its people from the threats of terrorism or war, Jews liv-

ing outside Israel should "defer to our opinion." Tragically, Israel had been forced to deal with these threats by sacrificing "over 20,000 of its sons and daughters over the years."

Bronfman spoke only in general only in general terms. He did not criticize specific Israeli policies, although he alluded to differences

by saying: "It does us no good to fantasize about a peace that will come to the Middle East without sacrifice or concessions. It does us no good to fantasize that our enemies will suddenly disappear. It does us no good to think that three million Jews can live among 120 million Arabs without some political accommodation and somehow prevail."

In stating his case for dissent, Bronfman cited the credibility of U.S. Jewish leaders. "Indeed," he said, "it has been said by many American secretaries of state that they don't need to hear from so-called leaders of American Jewry — they hear exactly the same song from the Israeli ambassador."

He then added: "From a personal point of view, I could not live with myself if I did not speak out for honesty, truth and fairness as I see them. Further, I am convinced that never to disagree, always to accept and support every decision — even when one does disagree with it — neither helps our cause in the short term nor the long."

"We risk our credibility, we may lose it altogether, with our governments and with the friends, acquaintances and associates in the non-Jewish world, whose support we should seek to win. Perhaps, most serious of all, we lose it with our children."

Bronfman said that "a strong people need not fear diversity. I speak to you as an American as well as a Jew, as a working citizen of the Jewish world and of the larger world as well. This dual citizenship creates no conflict."

"In fact, I believe with perfect faith, that to be a better and authentic Jew, is to be a better American, a better Israeli, a better Frenchman, Australian, Hungarian or Mexican."



Julius Berman

## White House discussion

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent WASHINGTON. — U.S. President Ronald Reagan told a visiting delegation of Jewish leaders last week that Jordan's King Hussein could be expected to join the peace process once Israel, Syria and the PLO start their withdrawal of troops from Lebanon.

Edgar Bronfman, President of the World Jewish Congress, quoted the president as saying during the closed-door, White House meeting that "the way to get the peace process started... is to get the foreign troops out of Lebanon."

Julius Berman, Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations said the president "clearly has it from King Hussein that he (Hussein) will not be able to come to the table until the Lebanese withdrawals commence."

Reagan insisted that it was Hussein's only precondition, according to Berman. Still, Berman quoted Reagan as saying, Hussein will press for a freeze of Israeli settlement activity during the actual negotiations.

Both Bronfman and Berman told reporters that the president and his senior advisers had flatly ruled out applying sanctions or pressure against Israel. "As a good American," Bronfman said, "I am very proud of my president. As a Jew, I also think that the president's position is very well stated."

Bronfman said Reagan "has a very deep and abiding respect and love for the Jewish people and for the State of Israel. I think he is sometimes misunderstood in terms of what he is trying to accomplish. But I think that what he is trying to accomplish is peace in the Middle East."

There were three separate closed-door sessions at the White House. First, Reagan met for some 20 minutes with a delegation of four Jews in the Oval Office. They included Bronfman, Berman, Albert Spiegel, chairman of the Republican Jewish Coalition, and Romanian Chief Rabbi Moshe Rosen, in Washington for the World Jewish Congress meeting.

Reagan then went to the East Room for a larger meeting with some 150 Jewish leaders, where he delivered a 15-minute prepared address.

The president called on all parties to make concessions. "Israel," he said, "must be prepared to engage in serious negotiations over the future of the West Bank and Gaza. As I've stated previously, the most significant action demonstrating Israel's good faith would be a settlement freeze. On the other hand, King Hussein should step forward, ready to negotiate peace directly with Israel."

## PROFILE

RECHA FREIER was born in Norden, Germany, in 1892. One of her sons says she doesn't like people to marvel at her age; she doesn't consider herself a phenomenon of nature. But she is a phenomenon of some sort.

While refusing to divulge any information about herself, she did classify the four enterprises (youth aliyah) in her life. The first was her four children, born in Germany but given Hebrew names: Shalhevet (the flame of God), Amud (pillar), Zerem (current) and Ma'ayan (fountain). Today, one, a former director of Israel's Atomic Energy Commission, is with the Weizmann Institute, two are physicians and one is an educator who has developed methods for teaching conceptual thinking to disadvantaged children.

Freier's second enterprise was Youth Aliya, the movement she founded in Germany in the '30s, despite enthusiastic resistance from established Zionist and Jewish groups.

The purpose was originally to bring groups of young people from Germany to Palestine before there was no getting out — and to settle them not in surrogate families, but in kibbutzim and moshavim where they would develop the land and themselves.

Writing is the third enterprise — so far, three volumes of surrealist prose, "the sublimation of experience." She hopes to complete a fourth. Fifteen of her poems have been put to music by German composers; one of them is "A line and a half" long.

Asked to recite it, she gives a Hebrew equivalent. "But it bears no similarity to the original," she says. "Don't print it." With double apologies, here is a third-hand English version:

A hell in Jerusalem the waters so deep.

OUT OF THIS reverberation has come the fourth enterprise: Testimonium, a triennial programme of new music, performed in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

The first Testimonium was in 1968, "about the time when the wall between Jerusalem and Jerusalem fell." She commissioned works from seven Israeli composers — each work to embody a segment of the city's history. All the texts used are original, she says, or she writes them "true to source."

The end of January is an important week for two of Freier's enterprises: Testimonium VI began on January 25 with an evening of the works of Maurice Kagel.

The second major event in January was the 50th anniversary of Youth Aliya.

Youth Aliya, which has produced 200,000 graduates since its establishment, last week celebrated its 50th anniversary by lauding its notogenarinn founder, Recha Freier.

Freier said that the educational effort was first conceived as early as 1930 — not to save Diaspora youth from the Nazis but to bring them to Eretz Yisrael "to build and he built." In fulfillment of the Zionist dream. According to popular belief, she told an audience at Beit Hanassi, the president's residence, Youth Aliya was founded merely as a rescue mission for German Jewish youths.

President Navon noted the great contributions to Israeli life of Youth Aliya graduates, both those who came without parents from abroad and the second generation of olim from disadvantaged families who have been educated by Youth Aliya teachers.

Reporter MARSHA POMERANTZ talked with Recha Freier at the Youth Aliya founder's Jerusalem home last week.

## A living legend



The two extraordinary women of Youth Aliya, Recha Freier, left, and Henrietta Szold

Asked to recall the beginnings of the movement, she says, "I was Youth Aliya," and produces a small book in Hebrew, with the title *Yashuv* (from Isaiah 27:6, "He will cause to take root"). The book, which has an English version called *I and the Children Come*, is her story of the founding, and it she sounds somewhat strident about her identification with the movement, it is because the credit for many years went only to Henrietta Szold, who in fact opposed the idea at the start.

The book tells in straightforward style a story which seems surrealistic. In Berlin in 1932, Freier conceived the idea of sending young people to Palestine when a group of young people came to her and said they'd been fired from their jobs because they were Jewish.

According to her book, Jewish leaders in Palestine and in Germany told her she was crazy to suggest such a "Crusade of children."

Henrietta Szold, the first president of Hadassah, then held the social welfare portfolio of the Va'ad Leumi, the ruling body of Jewish Palestine, and responded to Freier's initiative by saying that Palestine

with the British that gave the energy shape and established the effective operation.

FREIER STARTED out as a teacher and researcher of folk tales; by now there are many legends about her own life. One is that she stole some exit permits from Adolf Eichmann's desk to allow a group of Polish Jews out of Germany. Ma'ayan, her daughter, says it's not true: "The real story is much more tragic than that. She had to steal the permits from the Jewish organizations to get them out."

The year was 1939, and the Nazis were still glad to get rid of the Jews through emigration. In Berlin, they had rounded up Jews of Polish citizenship for forced labour, but would let them leave the country on the recommendation of the Jewish "authorities."

The wives and mothers of the interned came to Freier, and Freier went pounding on the doors of the Jewish organizations. The only one recognized by the Gestapo was the Reichsvertretung, whose president was Leo Baeck, the leader of Progressive Judaism.

Freier quotes the organization's director, Paul Epstein, explaining why they refused to recommend that visas be given: If Polish Jews were allowed out of the labour camps, their places would eventually be taken by German Jews. It was better for the exit permits to be given directly to the German Jews, the argument went.

Meanwhile, in the camps, the Polish Jews succumbed to "heart failure"; their ashes were redeemable for DM3.75.

It is a account of Freier's also one of passionate energy clashing with the compromises of social institutions: Hanech Rintel, who was already in Palestine at the time, well only say that "no court has been invented on earth or in heaven which is fit to judge the leaders of the *Judeat*."

Recha Freier came to Palestine with her children in 1941. Her husband, a Berlin rabbi, had escaped from Germany in 1939. After Kristallnacht, Ma'ayan says, the Gestapo had been nice enough to "phone and tell him to disappear."

FREIER, under her shawls and handkerchiefs, seems bored with having questions shouted repeatedly in her ear. There are awkward silences in the conversation.

"I think you should write a ballad about your visit. Write about the cake and coffee. Ah, but a ballad has to end tragically — perhaps with the plate breaking."

"No, we can each write a novella. I'll write about the visit of a nice but too-inquisitive journalist, and you write about a visit to a boring lady."

## The defence of American folly

(Continued from page 11.)

Union, armed the PLO and watched, with an equanimity equalled only by Washington's, the growth of the Lebanese purgatory. It is Israel alone that made possible, indeed brought about, the stirrings of recovery in Lebanon.

Ambassador Lewis, however, asks Israel to help put the clock back. Lebanon, he told the Rotarians, "is also an Arab nation that cannot sever its Arab ties." Ties? A new expression for "noose."

Why does the U.S. not press Riyadh and Cairo and the rest, if not to atone for their sinful share in Lebanon's misery (it is too late for that), at least to stop using Lebanon now as a tool for their Muslim pan-Arab ambitions?

FINALLY, Mr. Lewis explained that the U.S. does not wish to exploit the situation to enhance its own interests in the struggle against the Soviet Union. No rational person who follows U.S. policy would dream of musing such an accusation. For many years U.S. policy in the Middle East, and a substantial part of its overall global policy, has rather promoted the interests of the Soviet Union.

American policy in Lebanon throughout is one great testimony to tragic myopia. The Soviets' Syrian assault has been encouraged in expansionist, anti-Christian, anti-Israel purposes; protection (past and present) has been given to the PLO — the Soviets' right arm, *inter alia*, in sowing world-wide terror.

The PLO also built up a large arsenal of Soviet arms in Lebanon. These are only partial indications of the realities of U.S. strategy. Do we need to mention the central, infantile notion governing that strategy: that Saudi Arabia is a bastion, even the central bastion, of Middle Eastern defence against the Soviets? The complete tale of this style of U.S. policy since the days of Kissinger would fill a hair-raising volume. Nobody would be foolish enough to suggest that the U.S. seriously expects its actions in the Middle East to enhance its national interests in the struggle against the Soviets.

In sum, the lot of an ambassador, especially a well-meaning one, is not a happy one when he is expected to justify the indefensible follies of his government.

## 'Caution' argument

By LEON HADAR / New York

leadership towards the Israel Government.

Thus, while admitting that there is "a diversity of views within the American-Jewish community with respect to the details of Israel's policies," the statement declared that the arrangements for achieving Israel's security "must be decided only by the people of Israel as represented by their democratic elected government."

Admitting differences over settlement policy, the statement noted that "Israeli communities in Judea and Samaria are not illegal but rather an expression of the right of Jews to live anywhere."

Other parts of the statement reiterated the almost ritual calls against negotiations with the PLO, against the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, and for a united Jerusalem under Israeli rule.

THE CONFERENCE'S heads had succeeded in turning the debate into an almost academic seminar instead of what some hoped it would be — a political debate.

Prof. David Sidorsky of Columbia University opened the discussion with some historical and analytical approaches to the American-Jewish-Israeli relationship, which in essence raised questions about the right of American Jews to attempt to influence Israeli decision-making on major security issues.

Rabbi Joseph Glaser, the

executive vice-president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, represented the "anti dissent" point of view; while Daniel Thurst, executive director of B'nai B'rith International, represented the "pro-dissent" position.

But there was a great deal of support, even among those who are basically quite critical of Begin's policies, for the view that an open debate at this stage, when the administration seems to be preparing for a major confrontation with Israel, would only weaken Israel's diplomatic position without leading to any major changes in its policies.

SIMILAR frustrations among Jewish critics of Begin over their inability to influence Israeli policies were raised in another discussion that took place in New York on January 11 under the auspices of *Moment* magazine. This was entitled "Truth Telling and the American Jewish Leadership."

More than 100 activists participated in the meeting, some of them leading members of religious and Zionist groups. While most of the speakers expressed support for the right of American Jews to criticize Israeli policies — some argued that it is an obligation — many called for caution in expressing that criticism publicly, expressing the hope that present policies would eventually change as a result of public debate in Israel.

Theodore Mann, a former chairman of the Presidents'

Conference said that, taking into consideration the lack of moderation on the Arab side and the increasing power of Moslem radicalism in the area, he found himself supporting the Likud government's policies "almost against my wishes."

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, another former chairman of the Conference, reminded the audience that Labour governments had been in many ways more opposed to criticism from the American-Jewish community than is the Likud government. While emphasizing that it is the "duty" of American Jews to tell the truth to the Israelis, he deplored some of the techniques used to transmit such criticism, such as placing anti-Begin ads in *The New York Times*.

Congressman Sam Gejdenson from Connecticut stressed that the approach should be to combine support for Israel with commitment to the values of the Jewish community in the U.S. He conceded that Israel needs criticism from time to time, adding that criticism of certain aspects of Israeli policies increased the effectiveness and credibility of the American-Jewish position in the Congress.

REFLECTING a more critical attitude in the Begin government was Rina Huser, one of the heads of the American Jewish Committee and a Republican Party activist. She argued that Israel today is "an overwhelming power in the area."

This allowed American Jews who are committed to Jewish ethics and values to discuss without fear of intimidation the issues of the West Bank, taking into consideration the right of peoples to self-determination.



Together with new contributions of IS43,116, *The Jerusalem Post* Toy Fund total is now IS1,200,128.52.

It would be wonderful if we could increase the total to IS2 million by Passah, which would enable us to respond to post-Hanukka requests.

Long time Toy Fund benefactors, B'nai B'rith of Atlanta, Georgia, turned up triumph again, with a contribution of \$900. Other Toy Fund donors were:

IS93 B'nai B'rith, Atlanta, Ga.  
IS100 Jerry Berger, East Islip, N.Y.  
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IS25 Mildred and Abe Chana, Tucson, Arizona.

IS30 In honor of our beloved Cousin in Polish Litwa — the Abraham Kweiler family.  
IS500 Anonymous, Kibbutz Lavie, For Gila, in honor of your joy — Happy Birthday Nina and Hanneh Aronovitz, Jerusalem.

IS10 In honor of the birthday of our sister and aunt, Brisa Dushinsky of Jerusalem — Yoni Hinkovitch, With love, Avram, Sandy, Michael and Alan Dushinsky, Manchester, Conn.  
IS300 Dr. Anni and Erich Badmann, Ramat Chanan, Zev Heretz, Jerusalem.

IS150 In memory of my beloved father — (11), Jerusalem.  
IS141 In honor of my boys Niv, Alon, and Hanneh, and my mother Eva Chepenik — (11), Jerusalem.

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## Ahead towards IS2m. mark

IS15,900 A group of Mt. Carmel citizens who care: IS3,500, Lily and Dr. Eli Oidron; Margot and Walter Rosenzweig; IS3,000, Mrs. Rachel Reich; IS2,000, Ina and Emanuel Glusberg; IS2,000, Dr. Fritz Berl; Reuben Hirsch; Lily and Heinz Rosenberg; Dr. Moshe Tishlik; Dr. Eyal Unger; Lily and Boris Yaron; Walter Zolner; IS300, Greta and Ernst Sagel; IS100, Lizzy Danil.

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IS30 Arthur Miller, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
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IS1,000 J. Lutzer, Ramat Chanan, Anonimus, Jerusalem.

IS25 In honor of the 66th birthday of Joseph Rifkin — Lilian Rifkin.  
IS900 From the Bridge Group in Savoy: Dr. P. Rosen; Mrs. F. Abitz; Mr. R. Baruch; Judge and Mrs. J. Herstein.

IS750 In honor of the Golden Wedding and Mr. and Mrs. Baron of Ra'anana — David and Freda Feldman, Johannesburg, South Africa.

IS20 In honor of the Kweiler, Goldminz and Lipman families in the U.S. — Abraham and Irene Goldminz, Carlsbad, N.M.

IS141 In honor of my boys Niv, Alon, and Hanneh, and my mother Eva Chepenik — (11), Jerusalem.

IS100 In memory of my beloved father — (11), Jerusalem.

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The following list of Toy Fund donors was also published in the daily edition of *The Post* last week.

IS200 N. Tensley; Sophia Badmann, Tel Aviv. In cherished memory of my Great-grandparents, Osele and Isaac Leldman, and Zippora and Lizahele Pomer — David Kohen. In cherished memory of my Great-grandparents, Osele and Isaac Leldman, and Zippora and Lizahele Pomer — Avish Hadida-Pomer.

IS200 In memory of my beloved husband, Mendele Ehrman — Mrs. E. Ehrman, Tel Aviv.

IS150 In memory of my beloved father — G.C.

IS100 Mr. Gusti Hayon, Hnifa, 9th donation. Anonymous, Olvetsky, In honor of my boys Niv, Alon and Hanneh, and my mother Eva Chepenik — Iris Levy.

IS54 R.O. Orr, Jerusalem.  
IS90 In loving memory of our son David — Dima and Moshe Belozersky, Haifa.  
IS36 Anonymous, Jerusalem.

IS20 In honor of the Kweiler, Goldminz and Lipman families in the U.S. — Abraham and Irene Goldminz, Carlsbad, N.M.

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victims of the Holocaust — Dr. and Mrs. Henry Sprung, U.S.  
IS2,620 Anonymous, Jerusalem.  
IS2,000 V. Shaul, Haifa.

IS1,781.83 Anonymous, Jerusalem.  
IS90 In memory of my mother, Laura Stark, on the 10th anniversary of her death — Anna H. Sorrell, Caracas, Venezuela.

IS100 In Memory of Salomon Jozef de Vries, (Humboldt Suidam).

IS1,000 Shirley and Louis Schoffman, Jerusalem; In honor of our brother Gerhard Perl who died this month in Auckland, New Zealand — his two sisters in Hnifa.

IS750 Sidney and Betty Berg, Jerusalem.  
IS600 Malkin, Tel Aviv.

IS350 Shejia Goldberg, Kfar Sava.  
IS400 Anonymous, Be'er Brak, Anonymous, Haifa.

IS18 To honor the 60th birthday of Herbert Schrieber of Bayside, N.Y. from the Lelmon Family, Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Leibowitz, Brooklyn, N.Y.

IS360 In remembrance of my dear husband, Martin Ekditch, who passed away three years ago, I. Ekditch, Haifa. Twenty times, hal in memory of our cousin Rachel and Aaron, from Daniel, Avrom, Avigail and Michael or Rehovot.

IS350 Phillip Harris, Ganel Yehuda, Roehel Olshum, Jerusalem.

IS300 Mr. and Mrs. Hangel, Fairview, N.J. Elizabeth Lutzer, Haifa.

IS250 In memory of my beloved mother, Mrs. Kimor, Haifa.

IS300 Anonymous, Tel Aviv.

IS181 Yehudit on the 10th birthday of my mother Miriam Green, Blanche Markovitz, Azad. In loving memory of Ya'acov Gavriely, from Eme and Dov-Ber Aaronson.

IS Irving and Muriel Katz, Merion, Pennsylvania. Mr. Morris Solomon, Pittsburgh, Pa.

IS100 Agnes B. Judelman, Jerusalem, in memory of my parents — L. Vaiman, Acre.

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## THE ARTS

SO WHAT'S the matter with the Israeli cinema? Why doesn't it flourish and become the envy of the whole world? After all, cinema is practically a Jewish business. All the Hollywood moguls, directors, film stars, script writers — they're all Jewish, aren't they? With a small cash contribution from each of them, and a slightly more substantial contribution in know-how, the road to success is paved for Israeli movies.

If you think this is a joke, think again. For that is exactly the question I was asked not long ago by a Scandinavian journalist, who was amazed at Israeli filmmakers' perpetual state of crisis. This very respectable lady ought to have sat in on a symposium on the promotion of Israeli films, which took place recently at the Jerusalem Cinematheque.

The basic premise is simple enough. Films are a costly medium and Israel is a small market. Unless you compromise on quality and direct your product to the lowest common denominator, there is no chance of recovering your investment. And in films, art without money is impossible.

One thing was obvious to everybody at the symposium: more funds are required if anything is to be achieved. But the only one to put it in plain language was someone outside the film world, Oded Kotler.

A veteran of many budget battles, fighting of course for the theatre, Kotler was more or less watching the proceedings from the sidelines, but after two or three hours he couldn't take it any longer: he stood up and declared that the subventions going to the Israeli cinema are scandalously low, compared with anything else the Establishment hacks in the cultural field. Considering the size of the audience it caters to (even in 1982, over 1,650,000 bought tickets for Israeli movies), the financial help it gets doesn't come anywhere near what

the state invests in other artistic activities, such as the theatre, for instance.

HOW DID this happen? Very simply. Cinema in Israel is the son of many fathers, who all regard it as a slightly freakish bastard. The first of these fathers, the Israel Film Centre, is traditionally annexed to the Ministry of Industry and Trade, which naturally regards it as an industrial and commercial instrument. But, points out Yoram Golan, its manager, even in 1982, which was a good year, the Centre's total income from the export of films and film services came to no more than about \$10m, so what weight can this branch have, compared with other products?

Just for the record, the Film Centre is responsible for a subsidy to films based on the number of tickets sold, which in 1982, reached

## Cultural orphan

CINEMA/Dan Fainaru



Gedalia Besser in Daniel Wachsmann's "Transit."

the sum of almost IS22m, or 60 per cent provided by a small levy on all cinema tickets, the rest by the ministry.

The break-even point for an Israeli film nowadays is a paying audience of about 250,000; but, says Golan, efforts are now being made to get the subsidy on the first 100,000 tickets increased enough to cover the whole investment, which, for a local production, averages \$500,000.

IF INDUSTRY and Trade is one of the fathers, Education and Culture is another, and this parent too, is pretty suspicious of its retarded child. Avner Shalev, who heads the Arts and Culture Council, said as much when he expressed doubts about the results of the movies produced under the patronage of its fund for the promotion of quality

films. Since it was established four years ago, this fund has been responsible for about 20 features, some of them prestige successes, such as Dan Wolman's *Hide'n Seek*, Daniel Wachsmann's *Transit*, Nissim Dayan's *The End of Milham Levy* and Michael Bar-Adam's *A Thin Line*, and others, like Yuki Yoshida's *The Future*, creating quite a furore by their unconventional approach to Israeli realities. But common to them all was the refusal of the Israeli public to go to see them.

The simple but not very encouraging fact is, that notwithstanding such relative hits as *Repeat Dine* or the recent *Hanukha*, the only fund movie to recoup its money was *Naa at 17*. This, for Shalev, is a clear sign of a basic shortcoming: They were not really good films.

But the real catch is elsewhere. Repertory theatres, symphony orchestras, museums or ballet companies are regarded as something the State of Israel owes itself and its people, and the money they receive from official agencies is considered a grant. Films, apparently, are different, mainly in business, so the public money they get is considered an investment.

NOT THAT there is anybody else to blame for this but the film people themselves. They are so busy attacking each other that they don't have the time to form a unified front to combat the real issues. As tempers flared time and again in the course of the symposium, non-communication seemed to be the order of the day.

For example, everybody talked about quality, but nobody could define what this means. For the veteran producers who still dream of turning Israel into a haven for commercial production, and regard *The Guns of Navarone* as the epitome of film quality, all those youngsters who want money to make problem films that nobody wishes to see, are

just frustrated kids who should be sent home to mmmu until they learn what movies are all about. But the youngsters themselves contend that they are the only ones who are treating the problems of their generation in depth.

Or another topic: what kind of Israeli movie is to be encouraged by the state? Daniel Wachsmann believes that it must be a film shot in Israel, using Israeli crews and Israeli facilities; it also has to deal with Israeli problems — in Hebrew. Which enraged all those producers seeking co-production deals, who believe that you have to fashion your movie according to the market requirements, and if by using English dialogue you enlarge the market, so be it.

THE FUND for the promotion of quality films, which organized the symposium, certainly has to be given credit for what Rachel Ne'eman, who had been employed there for 18 months, termed as a renaissance of the Israeli cinema. Thanks to the fund, young people concerned with what they deem to be burning issues, and splendidly indifferent in most cases to the commercial appeal of their product, have been able to start developing their own language on film.

After so many years of indescribable drivel, relieved once or twice by something like *I Love You Rosa*, Israel is finally finding its own movie voice; still shaky, not very confident and not very professional, but determined to forge ahead and create the sort of national cinema which is the only kind that has any chance, not only at home, but also abroad. For it is an accepted fact that no one will outdo Hollywood on its ground, and therefore only by trying to be different and evolving an identity of its own is there a chance of Israeli cinema arousing any kind of international interest, and this the fund has at least attempted to achieve.

## Absent maestro

MUSIC & MUSICIANS / Yohanan Boehm



Yigal Zimmerman... a conductor returns

Schoenberg, and Pierre Petit of the New York Times and *Le Figaro*, respectively. Israel will be represented by Pinna Saltzman and Arieh Vardi, with Mechal Smolir, Cohn as chairperson. Still considering their invitations are Gary Graffman (U.S.), Christian Zimmermann (West Germany), Witold Lutoslawski and Witold Rowitzki (Poland), and Maurizio Pollini (Italy).

The competition will take place

In Tel Aviv. The first and second elimination rounds in the Recanati Auditorium at the Museum between March 20 and 31, and the third round, for the best six pianists, at the Mann Auditorium on April 5 and 6. The first three will fight for the crown on April 7.

THE JURY will have a Herculean task choosing 12 candidates for the second round from 49 performers. In addition to their solo perfor-

mance, the 12 will have to perform a chamber music piece with Menachem Breuer, violin, and Zvi Harel, cello, members of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

Impresarios in search of now talents are expected to flock to the contest, and many observers, teachers and students' teachers have expressed great interest in attending the sessions.

As an innovation, a special prize — "Public's Favourite" — is being introduced. Anyone purchasing a subscription and attending all the sessions, as well as giving a token contribution towards the prize, will be entitled to vote for his or her favourite on a special form.

ISRAELI MUSICIANS are prone to travel in search of greener pastures, hoping to find a wider scope for their talents and to conquer the world of the footlights and the microphone. But sometimes they feel the need to return home and settle for more intensive activity in one country. Having gathered laurels and experience among foreign people and under different conditions, they may come to realize that it is not so bad at home as they thought, and that they should give it another try.

Yigal Zimmerman and his wife were both born in a kibbutz, and both spent a few years abroad in their respective professions. She is a creative artist; he studied violin and theory at the Tel Aviv Academy, with Israel Amichai, Rona Pehor and Odedon Pehor. Before a scholarship from the American-Israeli

Cultural Foundation in 1972 enabled him to continue his studies at the Philadelphia Music Academy. After a year, he returned to Israel, joined the Israel Chamber Ensemble, founded the Haifa Quartet and conducted the Haifa Youth Orchestra. In 1975 he went to Holland and finished his conducting studies at the Amsterdam Sweelinck Conservatorium. He was active as the leader of the Gelders Kamer-musiek Ensemble, and took part in conductors' courses with Kondrashin in 1978 and with Oesterreicher in 1980. In 1978-79 he was the permanent conductor of the Naardens Symphony Orchestra — often appearing as soloist with various orchestras during that time. In 1979 he became permanent conductor of both Amsterdam University's Sweelinck Orchestra and the Liden University Orchestra, the latter specializing in contemporary and avant-garde music.



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BERKELEY-BASED Robert Alter is a far-ranging, highly original critic whose prose is evocative and precise and stripped of jargon. With the present volume and two earlier ones—*After the Tradition* and *Modern Hebrew Literature*—he has carved for himself a pre-eminent position among English-language commentators on Hebrew literature. Over and above his style, Alter's special merit resides in the combination of a full arsenal of critical approaches, in his tact in risking conjecture while avoiding overkill, and in his genuine affinity for Hebrew literature.

*The Art of Biblical Narrative* offers a multi-faceted literary approach to the Bible (i.e., the Jewish Bible) as a continuous narrative which employs the artifice of fiction "in a constant interweaving of factual historical detail... with purely legendary 'history'." Occasional enigmatic vestiges of mythological lore; etiological folk tales of heroes and wonder-working men of God; verisimilar inventions of wholly fictional personages attached to the progress of national history; and fictionalized versions of known historical figures.

It is plain in the outset that Alter's composite formulation of the Bible stands somewhat outside the traditional orbit, but it must be emphasized that he examines the biblical weave with a fine sensitivity and in a manner which seems to me compatible with Rabbi J.B. Soloveitchik's *Lonely Man of Faith*. Alter's is a work of greater sophistication and complexity than is usually presented by biblical exegetes and commentators on "the Bible as literature." Alter excavates those modern scholars who dwell on discontinuity and who perceive the Bible as something of a primitively wrought patchwork of discordant sources. He is in much closer methodological harmony with midrashic exegetes who are "exquisitely attuned to small verbal signals of continuity." Their deficiency, he asserts, springs from their virtue: because of the assumption of total significance, they attend so closely to the frame in focus that the significance of longer-range narrative continuities are overlooked or underplayed.

I can attest to that. Week after week for three years, a group of us have met on Shabbat for *kiddush* and an hour's discussion of the weekly portion. Although we often do seize upon an unanticipated aspect of the familiar material, we all suffer as well from bouts of *déjà vu*. Alter persuades me that much of the cause is that the efficient division of the *Tanach* in weekly sections, each bearing its own title, accretion of homiletic commentary, and quasi-independent character tends to mask the vision of the Bible as a continuous narrative. In time, the pressure toward weekly closure proves almost irresistible.

Alter turns away from a taxonomy of biblical source material to the Bible as a unified whole, the *composed* work as a master achievement of the final redactor(s) who consciously fashioned given materials.

NOT TO perceive that the "primitive" elements of the Bible are, as it were, quoted material, is seen by Alter as the narrowest modern parochialism. Moreover, Alter almost never gets so caught up in explication as to lose sight of what must be central for most readers of the Bible: that it is the definitive record of God's involvement in history. I was aware of no condescension, or laboured ingenuity with the "God-idea." The

## The biblical weave



THE ART OF BIBLICAL NARRATIVE by Robert Alter. New York, Basic Books. 195 pp. \$13.95.

Haim Chertok

book delights, rather, in discerning unanticipated richness and imaginative scope. In short, the authority and integrity with which Alter engages his subject breathes much the same air and at times seems in me breathtakingly close to the same sensibility of that implied Author, author, or redactors of the biblical text itself.

Alter commences his study with a discussion of the story of Tamar and Judah (Genesis 38) as a sort of demonstration of how a literary analysis of the Bible can illuminate it. I read this chapter in somewhat different form originally as an article in *Commentary* (most of this book first appeared in journals). It seemed brilliant then; on rereading it remains a *tour de force*. It serves as an apt introduction to Alter's approach because it enables him to offer a persuasive resolution to the enigma of the story which interrupts the Joseph narrative by looking beyond to the larger architectural design.

The inset story of Judah and Tamar "like the whole Joseph story, and indeed like the entire book of Genesis, is about the reversal of the iron law of primogeniture, about the election through some devious twist of destiny of a younger son to carry on the line." Alter reminds us that although Joseph rules over his brothers in their lifetime, the primogeniture of Judah here and elsewhere has everything to do with his being the progenitor of the kings of Israel.

In the ensuing eight chapters of the book, Alter offers analyses, nearly all on Genesis or the story of David, which illustrate techniques or approaches which seem particularly fruitful.

SEVERAL of Alter's hypotheses seem to me brilliant, a result of his sensitivity in asking the right questions of his material. Why is the Bible the only one of venerable sacred

works to be cast predominantly in prose? Here he endorses the view of Israeli scholar Shemaryahu Talmon that the epic form was deliberately eschewed because of its intimate connection with the pagan world.

Later Alter offers the conjecture that the very criterion for the choice of books which are canonical had to do with books which maintained an "adequate dialectical tension between these antitheses of divine plan and the sundry disorders of human performance in history." Excluded, thereby, were various Chronicles, because they probably catalogued events without a sufficient vision of God's presence in history. At the other end of the spectrum, the Book of the Battles of Yahweh was omitted, he guesses, because it was overcommitted to tracing God's design in history.

The formative bias of Jewish consciousness, which the nature of canon stories reveals, is committed, Alter argues, to the double tension of God's will-versus-human freedom and of the divine plan versus actual history. And therein lies its uniqueness.

Flowing from this double dialectic are narrative techniques which seem modernist but which Alter persuasively argues reflect an aesthetic based on openness and freedom. For example, the famous cruxes of two versions of Creation and of two creations of Eve do not coexist because of the redactor's inability to splice them better. Alter argues for an aesthetic akin to montage. Both versions are maintained because they both are needed for a full rendering of the action. That God created the universe and that man is an active participant in creation are both true; that man and woman are equal and that woman is historically subservient to man are both true. Alter in effect argues the stigmatism of literalist discomfort with biblical "contradictions." His resolution likens the aesthetic effect to that of post-cubist paintings which project multi-perspectives.

*The Art of Biblical Narrative* seems to me an elegantly conceived and implemented work, particularly for those of us who are committed both to Torah and to modernity. I think it is important reading.

## Today

A MARRIED friend (one of the few I have left) whom I met the other day complained that she never seemed to get through her daily chores. To cheer her up I told her that I, too, never seem to get anything done. But unlike her, if anything breaks down in my household I don't have a live-in man to fix it.

But the real difference is that living alone, if you don't get some chore or other done, who cares? Nobody will reproach you or even know that your pad is in a terrible mess, the dishes are unwashed, and the refrigerator is empty. (Except, of course, when your mother comes to town. Then everything has to be spick-and-span.)

More to the point, there is no deadline on your private life. The dishes and mess will still be there tomorrow. Also, there is probably something more important to do — if you just think of it. One of my divorced friends has often boasted of all the hours she's saved during the past six years by not liding up her flat, and of how much more productively she spent that time, writing, drinking and having fun.

Many women I've spoken to were afraid of the little, seemingly unimportant things that can go wrong when you're on your own.

Women are deprived by our social and educational system of learning the basic skills for living alone, for surviving.

Using an electric drill is no big deal, but if you were taught sewing at school instead of carpentry or mechanics, as I was, you may be scared stiff of anything electric. A blocked sink — or heaven forbid, a contact lens falling down the drain — can turn into a major catastrophe if you don't know how easy it is to open it up.

A recently published book entitled *Itha Lord*, "A Woman Alone," extols the virtues of living alone. Living alone — something so many of us take for granted and do as a matter of course — is presented by author Naomi Gul

## Going it alone

Can a woman make it on her own, despite prevailing attitudes? Michal Yudelman answers: yes. However, Janet Segal and her friends (below) have reservations.



Writer Naomi Gul.

ns a grand achievement, which I somewhat resent. The book, however, does serve in focus attention on a growing phenomenon: Living on one's own is becoming more and more a part of Israeli life. Society in Israel is still so family-oriented that insurmountable obstacles are heaped before anyone trying to make it alone. Let's face it, you're still not regarded — legally, socially or economically — as a "complete" human being without some male hovering somewhere in the background.

We may be learning to cope with all kinds of everyday problems and even with nagging nuns or neighbors who always expect one to marry the last man they saw coming out of one's flat. But it's still difficult to go out alone at night, even to a movie, and not to mention to a restaurant. Can you imagine an elegantly dressed, made-up woman entering an expensive restaurant alone? It's practically unheard of.

Entering a pub alone can be very unpleasant if you don't immediately meet someone you know inside, or have the definite air of expecting someone soon.

After a certain age in Israel, you're considered a failure if you're single. Single parenthood is far from being accepted and that makes having children a considerable problem as well. And on top of having no one supportive to come home to, and the constant strife of muddling through life alone, you have to deal with the inevitable guilt stemming from not living up to your family's and society's expectations.

You have to have a certain kind of mentality for not merely coping with, but enjoying life alone. People are so very different; some may never be happy alone or accept it as a natural way of life. On the other hand, you may have no choice and then you'd better get used to it and learn to like it.

There is nothing worse than feeling that a great abyss has opened in your life, and trying desperately to fill it by eating, watching television, or going out with anyone you run into.

Life is so short, and we go through so many passages in it, that it should not be wasted making adjustments to society's expectations, or to a spouse who may once have been suitable but isn't anymore, or to any situation which restricts us or prevents us from growing. Between

the sink and the grocery store, creativity will almost certainly perish.

"Behind every harried homemaker is a capable single woman who really knows how to enjoy herself," one twice-divorced friend always reminds me in times of doubt. And she should know. Many women have discovered that there is no need to ever be alone for long. You can arrange your life in such a way that you're always surrounded by friends, children, dogs or cats (which are great company, as any animal-lover will tell you).

The point is that when you do want to be alone, you can be. You may, however, want to watch out for slipping into a self-centred, compulsive and idiosyncratic way of life, which is all too easy when you get used to looking out for Number One. Too many people living alone reach a stage where any violation of their perfect order is not merely irritating, but intolerable.

Together with the conditioning that we cannot survive — physically or emotionally — on our own, we must "unklearn" a lot of things if we ever hope to make it.

If you have the confidence to brave loneliness and can overcome the loss of self-esteem resulting from being suddenly alone, if you can believe in yourself and your ability to face the world undaunted (and I'm not at all sure yet that I can) — then good luck, sister. At least you have a fighting chance.

Michal Yudelman

## 'A couple-oriented society'



(Rubin)

mid-twenties-to-thirties age group; and there is a dearth of places where single people in Israel can socialize, particularly in the provinces. Often the places that do exist seem to be more like "lonely hearts" clubs instead of comfortable, intimate places where one can really relax and be oneself.

An American in the group remarked that she was very conscious of the fact that Israel was a couple-oriented society.

"I don't feel right going to entertainment places alone, or being surrounded by a preponderance of

females. I've noticed that any dinner parties made seem to be for couples only, or at least for even numbers of people," she said.

The Anglo-Saxons in the group felt they were in a slightly different situation from the sabras.

"You were born and raised here," one remarked to Rachel, "but for one who has had 20 or more years of English upbringing, I find I can't shake that off, nor do I think I want to."

"I find I very often have little in common with many fellow Israelis, except that we are both Jewish," said one woman, public, "Israeli is full of Jewishness, but the Jewishness is not the same as the Jewishness of the Anglo-Saxons."

When one talks about "the Jewishness" of the Anglo-Saxons, one is talking about a different kind of Jewishness, one that is more

often really talking about a minority within a minority. I daresay many men feel the same way.

"I love this country," said Sheila, a psychologist, "in spite of all its faults. But I must admit, I don't relish the prospect of winding up 40-years-old in the same situation — all my family abroad and little hope of having a family of my own. In fact, I would say the thought depresses the hell out of me!"

All agreed that they didn't want to get married just for the sake of it and settle for "second best."

We discussed whether it was possible to really establish roots here as a single person, and to continue living in Israel based on idealism alone — especially when that idealism is shaken by certain events.

As I put away the last cup and saucer, I realized the irony of it all. These seven women were in Israel for many reasons. The Anglo-Saxons came because of strong Zionist feelings, anti-Semitism, or out of disagreement with their home governments.

They nearly all said that while living here, the chances of meeting someone of their own faith were very good. Yet they had ultimately traded one problem for another. As one woman put it, "Israeli is full of Jewishness, but the Jewishness is not the same as the Jewishness of the Anglo-Saxons."

When one talks about "the Jewishness" of the Anglo-Saxons, one is talking about a different kind of Jewishness, one that is more

often really talking about a minority within a minority. I daresay many men feel the same way.

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A RECESSION overtook the economy in 1966, yet exports rose by 7.5 per cent. The Six Day War broke out in 1967; they increased by 8.5 per cent. Came the Yom Kippur War in 1973; foreign sales swelled by a quarter, and by another quarter in the following year for good measure.

It did not matter what happened at home or abroad, Israel's exports went on growing. And the pace was hair-raising. In 1950 net foreign sales totalled \$35 million; in 1960, \$211m.; in 1970, \$734m.; in 1980, \$5,292m.

(We are talking of commodity exports. Total exports including "invisible" more than doubled in the 48 months up to the end of 1980, from \$4.5 billion in 1976 to \$10b.) But in that year 1980, the process stopped. In 1981 the increase was negligible (half a per cent). In 1982 foreign sales dropped — by 7 per cent.

The real deterioration began in the last quarter. During the first nine months of 1982 there was no real change. In October-December the fall was a staggering 15.5 per cent.

If diamonds are included (for some reason they are always calculated separately) the drop was a little smaller, coming to 12.5 per cent in the last quarter. Diamonds per se did not do a little better in that quarter — not because sales rose appreciably, but because they had fallen so drastically in the last quarter of 1981.

December, the last month of the year, was almost disastrous. Exports sank (compared with December 1981) by over one-fifth. Agricultural exports fell by 30 per cent (weather conditions had something to do with that). Chemicals declined by 37 per cent, and even the most forward-looking branch, metals, machinery and electronics, sagged all of a sudden by over a quarter. "A single month can't be taken as typical," Avraham Asheri, the Industry Ministry's amiable director-general, points out. "But there was indeed a sharp decline in the second half of 1982 — and if that is a trend, it must be a cause of concern."

TWO EXPLANATIONS are given in business circles, one the world slump, the other insufficient devaluations of the shekel. Neither argument fully justifies the setback. As to the world slump, international trade has certainly stopped growing, but it has not shrunk. According to ministry figures, the volume of commerce between nations rose by 1.5 per cent in 1980, was unchanged in 1981, and went down again by 1 per cent last year. Looking at the picture as a whole, that is not a crippling decline.

As to the devaluations, they did lag behind the currency's depreciation. Finance Minister Yoram Aridor seems to be more concerned for the moment with fighting inflation than bridging the trade gap.

The dollar was worth \$15.60 in December 1981, and \$13.65 in December 1982 — a drop of 15.5 per cent. Israel's price index rose during that same period by 131.5 per cent; so the shortfall comes to 11.85 per cent.

This was supposed to be covered by exchange-rate insurance. Industrialists say they did not get enough. Asheri says they got plenty. Foreign currencies had themselves suffered a measure of inflation, and that had to be deducted from the compensation offered. Moreover the benefit was available only on old value.

Under the circumstances the 12

Israel's exports are in trouble. Formerly they had gone up — always, in good times or bad. But in the last two years the process went into reverse. So much so, that in the last quarter of 1982 the drop was a staggering 15.5 per cent. DAVID KRIVINE investigates.

## High living and the trade gap



Scitex exports computers that streamline pre-press work for colour printing.

per cent exchange-rate insurance benefit on exports to the U.S. and 19 per cent to other countries (because other currencies fell relative to the dollar) cannot be considered inadequate.

So what went wrong? Well, the no-growth of international trade during the last three years has accentuated the pace of technological obsolescence. Not all branches in the different countries conform with the world statistical average. Demand for some products has regressed, whereas for others it has continued to surge forward. When the universe was in boom during the 'fifties and 'sixties, everything sold. The old traditional sectors — what the Americans call smoke-stack industries — found the going difficult; but those energetic enough to mechanize and introduce automation were able to adapt.

ISRAEL'S TEXTILE factories are a case in point. They enormously expanded in the 'fifties, and then faced a slump in the 'sixties, owing to competition from the Third World. They met the challenge by concentrating on the more complex industrial processes, synthetics, fashion goods — and stayed in business.

This time the contrast between the old industries and the new is much starker. Export turnover in Israel's sophisticated textile branch fell by 10 per cent in 1982, substantially more than the 4 per cent average drop for exports as a whole (excluding diamonds). It declined by 17 per cent in the second half of the year (compared with the corresponding period of 1981) — as against 13 per cent for industry in general.

Society wants to spend more on new things — videos, computers, industrial robots — and is ready, if there is no alternative, to cut back

on the consumer items mentioned, which have hitherto been available (and purchased) in an abundance that some people consider bordered on excess.

ZVI SALAT, of Etz Lavud, puts his finger on the problem. "We make plywood and formica, so depend on the state of the building industry. The business recession in the West has reduced demand for housing and furniture, therefore our exports are affected."

Sales of the company's oldest products, the plywood and plastic laminates that it has been making for the last two or three decades, diminished by 25 per cent, from \$8m. to \$6m. Recovery depends on world recovery — "which must come," Salat is sure of that.

The implication is that his company's wood, plastics and furniture division has become a "cyclical industry," responsive to the rise or fall of living standards. If people have more money to spend, they will buy bigger homes and more furniture, not otherwise.

Growth industries expand even when total demand is stable. Salat and his colleagues were shrewd enough to spot that crucial fact and pushed Etz Lavud into high-technology in good time. It now owns two subsidiaries making highly advanced products that are worlds away from the homely building materials with which the parent company is associated.

One of those subsidiaries, Cyclone Aviation Products, manufactures in Carmel components for the aircraft and aerospace industries. The other, Laser Industries, produces laser systems used in surgery. Their export prospects do not depend on the success of President Reagan or Mrs. Thatcher in combating unemployment. They would certainly be

positively affected by any improvement in the general economic climate; but their output can grow even if this upturn does not occur.

SCITEX is a young concern founded in 1971, which makes only new technology-intensive products, created through its own research and development (R & D). Specifically, it automates colour-printing, rendering the whole work of design, both in the printing and textile industries, a speedier, more accurate and more efficient activity.

As an example, the process of preparing a colour transparency for commercial use normally requires 40 hours of skilled technician time. Scitex's Response 300 system allows the job to be completed in one hour.

What happened to this company's exports in the recession year 1982? They shot up — by 45 per cent, to reach an estimated \$48m.

Exact figures published so far cover the first nine months of 1982, but comparisons can be made with the same period in previous years. Here is the breathtaking expansion-rate of Scitex's foreign sales (July-September each year):

1979	5,290,000
1980	14,837,000
1981	24,315,000
1982	31,834,000

The key input is not timber or plastics, as in Etz Lavud's Petah Tikva plant, it is in R & D. The following is the growth in outlays on that year by year (January-December):

1979	625,000
1980	1,240,000
1981	2,846,000
1982	3,532,000

Scitex is not alone in this branch. Statistics are not published for science-based industries (SBIs) as a separate category; the nearest approach is electrical and electronic equipment. We saw that Israel's exports in their entirety rose sevenfold between 1970 and 1980. Exports of electrical and electronic equipment increased 22.5 times, from a humble beginning of \$12.8m. to \$287m.

MORE STRIKING is what has occurred since 1980. Exports in general rose in 1981, as we have said, by half a per cent. Exports of electrical and electronic equipment rose by one-third.

Last year exports in general dropped by 7 per cent. No official figures are yet available for electrical and electronic equipment, but according to Asheri SBIs as a whole rose by a further 8-10 per cent. It can be concluded that the first thing wrong with Israel's export effort is that the country is still saddled with too many conventional industries, whose sales tend to parallel overall world economic trends. They go up in boom time, but they drop during recessions — and that drop during recessions is a luxury Israel cannot afford.

Thus diamonds were a wonderful development in the 'fifties and 'sixties: Israel rose to become the world's second-biggest supplier of this gem. But what is happening now? Diamond export figures tell the dismal tale.

1980	1,409
1981	1,067
1982	908

At a time when Scitex doubled its exports, diamond sales dropped by one-third.

The first remedy then to Israel's export lag is a concentration of future investment on the SBIs, or R & D-intensive industries. To the credit of all concerned, this has been happening for a whole decade, as the figures quoted above testify. The danger is that the pace could

flag; which brings us to the second thing that went wrong in the export branch during 1980 and 1981.

Manufacturers may be mistaken, as Asheri claims, in blaming the government's policy of delayed devaluations for their current plight; but they are not mistaken in their impression that Finance Minister Yoram Aridor's economic programme is no longer primarily export-oriented, as it used to be.

The government's biggest policy error in this field is that it reversed the downturn in inflation initiated by Yigal Hurvitz when he headed the Treasury. As a result the authorities are now preoccupied with rectifying that blunder, and reducing inflation all over again — at any cost.

The difference is that Hurvitz's anti-inflationary measures were a means to an end, the end being to improve the trade balance. Aridor has got a more intractable inflationary problem on his hands. His battle to reduce prices is an end in itself, to be pursued even at the expense of the trade balance.

WHAT HAS WORSENEED is the size of the trade deficit, and that is due partly to the rise of imports, itself fed by improvements in the living standard. "Show me another country where private consumption went up steeply throughout the bad year 1981 and 1982, as it did in Israel," says Arthur Low, vice-president of Scitex.

The economic climate has changed. The aim under Hurvitz was that the only way to make a fortune should be through exports. Lately a fortune can be made through imports too (manufacturers have been opening import agencies); through selling locally-made goods on the domestic market. (Sukit: "Do you know what has prevented a slump in this country? The building work in Judea and Samaria, that's what!"; above all, through gambling on the Tel Aviv stock exchange.

The exporter faced unprecedented difficulties on foreign markets in 1982; he ought to have been forced to fight those difficulties and overcome them. But he had other options, not available in the days of Hurvitz's hard rule at the Treasury.

If marketing is problematic, there are alternative things to do with one's time and money. Look at balance-sheets, the figures are still good. It is often difficult to detect that a firm's exports have fallen steeply. There seems to be no shortage of cash.

MOST DISCONCERTING of all, the exporter has, not altogether through his own fault, suffered a setback in the task he is supposed to accomplish. His duty in the long term is to bridge his country's foreign-trade gap.

In 1980 exports increased by \$906.5m., which came to 35 per cent of the deficit. In 1981 exports increased by \$31m., which was one per cent of the trade deficit then current. Last year exports stopped growing altogether.

The rise in imports is deceptively small, because less raw materials and other industrial inputs are being brought in. But the import of consumer goods, like motor cars and videos, increased by half in 24 months, from \$544m. in 1980 to \$811m. last year.

Exports covered 58 per cent of imports in 1979, 68 per cent in 1981 — and only 62 per cent in 1982. — and only 62 per cent in 1982. These, as Low of Scitex stresses, are the statistics to be pondered.

## Israel now owes \$20b.

By AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter  
Israel's foreign debt increased by some \$1.3 billion during the third quarter of 1982, bringing the total debt to \$20.1b. The Bank of Israel announced last week.

The figures show that during the 12 months ending last September, Israel's foreign debt increased by some \$2.2b.

The rapid increase in the country's debts in the July to September period came after a relative slowdown in the first half of 1982 when the debt grew by \$350m.

Of the \$1.3b. increase in the third quarter of last year, only some \$500m. was due to credits received by the government, while \$800m. was due to private sector operations.

The increased debt of the private sector was the result of capital imports by commercial banks, which were authorized to take loans abroad if their period of maturity was longer than 30 months.

The Bank of Israel has recently restricted the number of such authorizations, after Treasury complaints that the sums brought into the country injected liquidity into the economy and were used to support the high price of shares on the stock exchange last year.

According to some reports in Jerusalem, one cause for the large increase in the foreign debt was the Treasury's policy of raising money abroad during the months following the beginning of the war in Lebanon, in anticipation of possible steps by the U.S. administration.

Israel requested some months ago a \$150 m. loan from the International Monetary Fund, after it became apparent that no conditions would be attached.

Unofficially, it is believed that the IMF is delaying a decision because of its disagreement with the economic policies of Finance Minister Yoram Aridor.

The statistics released by the central bank show that in the period between October 1982 and October 1983 Israel will have to pay some \$4.2 b. on account of its foreign debt. From this sum, some \$2.9 b. is short term debt and the rest long and medium-term loans reaching maturity during the period.

In addition, the country will pay some \$1.1 b. in interest on its previous debt, bringing the sums it will have to repay in the October 1982 to October 1983 period to \$5.3 billion.

The monthly averages for 1981 were 34,562 work-seekers and 14,

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High	Low	Prices in U.S. dollars	On	On	High	Low	Prices in U.S. dollars	On	On		
1.1.81 to 31.12.81	1.1.81 to 31.12.81	(IS\$4.00 = \$1)	27.1.82	1.2.82	1.1.81 to 31.12.81	1.1.81 to 31.12.81	(IS\$4.00 = \$1)	27.1.82	1.2.82		
12	25	BANKS	85	85	197	192	INDUSTRY	7.19	7.09		
14	24	Leumi	85	85	12	12	Alkermat (10)	1.00	1.00		
16	23	Leumi	85	85	13	13	Amot. Int. Paper Mills	1.00	1.00		
18	22	Hapoelim Reg.	85	85	14	14	Argamot (10) - Textile Ordinary Reg.	1.00	1.00		
20	21	L.D.B. Bankholding Ordinary (10)	1.23	1.25	15	15	Avic (10) - Textiles	1.00	1.00		
22	20	Mitahav Reg. (10)	1.13	1.13	16	16	Babak (10) - Capital Reg. (10)	1.00	1.00		
24	19	MORTGAGE BANKS	20	20	17	17	Beco (10) Reg. - Transforms	1.00	1.00		
26	18	General Mortgage Reg. (10)	1.19	1.19	18	18	Electric (10) Equip.	1.00	1.00		
28	17	Tel Aviv Ordinary Reg. (10)	1.16	1.16	19	19	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
30	16	INSURANCE	16	16	20	20	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
32	15	Ascham (10)	1.16	1.16	21	21	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
34	14	Hapoelim Reg. (10)	1.16	1.16	22	22	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
36	13	Sahar Reg. (10)	1.16	1.16	23	23	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
38	12	SERVICES	1.16	1.16	24	24	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
40	11	Orlef Post Reg.	1.16	1.16	25	25	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
42	10	Electric Corp.	1.16	1.16	26	26	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
44	9	REAL ESTATE AND CITRUS	1.16	1.16	27	27	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
46	8	Africa-Jerusalem	1.16	1.16	28	28	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
48	7	L.O.C.	1.16	1.16	29	29	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
50	6	Mohedine China	1.16	1.16	30	30	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
52	5	Property and Building (10)	1.16	1.16	31	31	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		
54	4	Rasno (Preferred) (10)	1.16	1.16	32	32	Electric (10) Equip. - Equip.	1.00	1.00		

## Dry Bones



## IAI to maintain U.S. Army helicopters

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Israeli Aircraft Industries is to provide maintenance services for helicopters of the U.S. Army in Europe. The Bedek division of the IAI that does maintenance operations signed a contract four months ago with the U.S. Army for the job. It was announced last week.

The contract was won against strong competition from 20 companies in six European countries. The IAI effort to get a similar con-

tract with the U.S. Sixth Fleet and with the U.S. Air Force has so far been unsuccessful.

The company will this year direct 25 per cent of its turnover in research and development projects, as compared with 15 per cent in recent years. Expert opinion considered the latter rate too low. The IAI is considering financing its R & D investment through subsidiaries, which will issue shares on the stock exchange and through foreign investors.

## Employment remains stable

The stable situation in the labour market that has existed since 1981 is expected to continue at least till mid-year, according to the head of the Employment Service, Baruch Hinkal.

At a press conference last week at which employment figures for 1982 were released, Hinkal noted that an average of 31,040 work-seekers registered with the service each month and that about 12,000 of them were unemployed at least six days during the month.

The monthly averages for 1981 were 34,562 work-seekers and 14,

407 unemployed six days or more.

During the last half of the year the service took on the extra job of screening applicants for income maintenance to determine if they were capable of working. Starting with about 2,400 of these cases each month, the number reached over 3,000 applicants by January, or about 11 per cent of those registered.

While the overall number of work-seekers dropped since 1981, the number of academically-trained job-seekers rose to 10,000 for the entire year, up from 8,700 since then.

## Med-Dead profit calculated by bending Treasury rules

By CHARLES HOFFMAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Mediterranean-Dead Sea Project (MDP) was able to forecast a \$400 million profit only by deviating from standard Treasury instructions for calculating how much major investment projects will cost the economy. If these standard criteria had been applied, then the MDP would come out only as a break-even, or even a losing, proposition.

Two weeks ago Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i had announced that the direct energy benefits of the hydro-electric project would yield a \$400m. profit. Only three weeks before he said that it was a break-even proposition in strict economic terms.

The projection showing a profit was based on a discount rate of 6 per cent. The discount rate is used by the Treasury to evaluate the costs in the economy of the future benefits anticipated from investment projects.

The official discount rates now used by the Treasury range from 8 to 10 per cent.

The figures in the final feasibility study of the MDP, which were obtained by *The Jerusalem Post*, show that at an 8 per cent discount rate the project would break even. If a discount rate of 10 per cent were applied, then it would show a considerable loss.

The cost-benefit calculations done to estimate the economic viability of the MDP were based on two possibilities: either a 6 or 8 per cent discount rate. The projections also assumed an annual 1 per cent increase in the price of fuels to be replaced by the 800 megawatt generator at the Dead Sea outlet of the canal and tunnel system running across the Negev.

The MDP Company has not yet released the figures showing a break-even outcome at 8 per cent. But in the introduction to the feasibility study, the project heads claim that even at 8 per cent the MDP would be worthwhile because of its indirect benefits such as cooling water for inland power plants and water for industrial and energy projects.

## Bank Leumi to build \$35m. headquarters

TEL AVIV. — Bank Leumi's decision to select Lod as the site of a \$35 million computer and management complex, with an eventual workforce of 4,000 is expected to have major consequences for the development of the town, Mayor Moshe Eliaz said recently, as details of the project were disclosed.

The new service centre, which will house \$50m. worth of computer and other equipment, as well as management and training facilities, is intended to bring together operations which are presently dispersed

in over 20 buildings around Tel Aviv. The computer centre will be the biggest civilian facility in Israel, replacing daily over 6 million accounts of various types. Each day some 350,000 cheques pass through the computers.

As an allied activity, the computer centre will contain the largest printing works in the country. Mayor Eliaz thinks the Leumi project will give a great boost to his town of 41,000 and stresses that as many of the bank workers as possible should make their homes there.

## IS1.4 billion in approved investments

Projects totalling some IS1.4 billion (\$40m.) were approved by the Investment Centre last year, it was announced recently by the Industry and Trade Ministry.

Centre director Joshua Forer said that the projects approved deal mainly with the establishment of new industries and the enlargement of existing ones.

The projects include, among

others, the production of wines, pharmaceutical, car spare parts, oils for cosmetic industries, and scientific translations.

Forer added that some IS23 million will be devoted to the establishment of new plants, while the bulk of the funds will be used for the enlargement of existing ones. Most of the projects approved are designed to increase exports.

## Research deal

REHOVOT. — The local HY LABS (Hy Laboratories) company, founded and directed by Dr. Tsvi Hershfeld, which manufactures bacteriological diagnostic reagents, has just signed a \$1.2 million research & development contract with a New York limited partnership, the Rehovot Biomedical Association organized by Israel Rosen. The three-year contract will be financed on a 50/5



ISRAELIS WHO CRITICIZE THE STATE OVERSEAS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post  
Sir, — "I for one would also like to ask the American taxpayer: 'Why are you giving us the rope with which to hang ourselves?' Thus concluded Professor Mattityahu Peled in his article in The New York Times of December 10, asking Uncle Sam to refrain from heaping on Israel's defence expenditures, because — says he — America's lavish aid is having disastrous effects on Israel's army and its political constitution. This article came only weeks after Mr. Amos Kenan, in the same paper, asked that American Jewry stop smothering Israel with love and generosity.



Mattityahu Peled

It is fair to say that Israelis, more than any other people in the world, have the urge to hang out their laundry on foreign lines.

Even if one fully agrees with Professor Peled's assessment of Israel's shift toward militarism, even if one concedes that the Begin government has committed intolerable excesses, one wonders why prominent Israeli citizens do not contain their struggle for a better democracy within their own boundaries, without turning for dubious help to a foreign country, at a time when others in Israel complain about too much outside meddling. Did Winston Churchill not say, when once visiting the United States and pressed to answer questions relating to England's internal affairs: "When I am ready to criticize my government, I will do it at home?"

The constant denigration by Israelis of their own political and military institutions may cause ir-

reparable harm to the young Jewish state; it could further alienate the American people — Jews and non-Jews alike — especially those among them who are like-warm to Israel's existence to begin with, and could give added ammunition to Israel's outright enemies in and out of Washington.

MAY MORDECHAI TAMIR  
New York.

Sir, — Professor Peled holds that there is absolutely no need for new financial and military assistance to Israel at this time. He asks the American taxpayer to stop further assistance.

Aware that his point of view would be dismissed by readers as an obvious partisan maneuver, he establishes his credentials as military expert, advising us of his qualifications as ex-member of the Israeli General Staff. He would have better served his cause in not doing so. The reasons he presented for opposing America's assistance to Israel's defence capacity are glaringly fal-

ALFRED DESSAU  
Far Rockaway, N.Y.

Sir, — The article by Mattityahu Peled, published in The New York Times, was reprinted in The Des Moines Register on January 3.

Mr. Peled depletes the military aid given to Israel by the U.S. What would Mr. Peled do if the U.S. took his advice and really stopped all aid — and then another Yom Kippur war would break out.

Mr. Peled and his ilk had better start realizing that we in the U.S. have enough trouble fighting anti-Israel attitudes, and anti-Semitism, without his self-destructive news articles. Some of our worst enemies come from within our own people. With friends like Mr. Peled — who needs enemies?

MIRIAM JONAS  
First Dodge, Iowa.

AMERICAN SCENARIO

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post  
Sir, — It seems that there is no limit to the American Administration's will to bring Israel to its knees and to force upon it the Rengan Plan, come what may. Loud noises which threaten the withdrawal of U.S. aid to Israel and the curbing of military equipment supplies have not yet affected the Israeli leadership. Both would be running against the still-larger reservoir of goodwill which the American people retain for the Jewish State. This is shown by the recent Congress resolution to improve the terms of the American financial aid to Israel.

However, the Administration is adopting sophisticated tactics aimed at destroying this remaining goodwill. The Israeli government is simply too untutored in understanding the scenario that is being played out under its very eyes at this moment. The U.S. Mannes are deservedly admired by the American nation and its representatives on Capitol Hill, as well as by very many Israelis. What better from the point of view of those gunning for Israel in the State Department than to

engineer a flare-up between Israeli forces and the famous Mannes? There is no doubt that these forces in the U.S. Administration, certainly without the knowledge of the President, are only waiting for a single incident caused by a tense soldier on either side or, more likely, through unidentified terrorist action, to proclaim the responsibility of Israel for planning and carrying out hostile action against the U.S. Marines. In the waves of understandable fury that will resound throughout the U.S. the already frightened Jewish leadership will be finally paralyzed, the public squares of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv will be filled by crowds of horrified Israeli citizens and the Arabists of the State Department will have a field day.

The Israeli leadership should wake up to this and without delay unilaterally withdraw Israeli forces a kilometre or two beyond the lines of vision of the U.S. forces, and avoid this bitter trap before it is too late.

ZEEV WEIL  
Jerusalem.

THE SETTLEMENT POLICY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post  
Sir, — During all the years that Israel was governed by the Labour Party, the Arabs refused to negotiate a peace treaty with the Jewish State or even to recognize its existence. They felt that Israel could disappear somehow and that time was on their side. They tried to speed up the process through various wars which they launched against Israel since 1948.

However, as a result of the Likud government's settlement policy in Judea and Samaria, many Arab

leaders are now coming to the opposite conclusion and saying that time is running against the Arabs and that, if they do not negotiate with Israel soon, "it will be lost."

Rather than demand that Israel cease settling the territories, those who wish to see Jews and Arabs gathered around the peace table should be among those supporting the government instead of opposing its settlement policy.

JOSHUA J. MILLER  
Jerusalem.

NUCLEAR AND TRAFFIC HAZARDS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — The debate on nuclear energy for Israel should be kept at a sensible level and avoid the extremes of the nuclear hysterics, who are afraid of everything, and the nuclear charlatans, who have quick and easy solutions of our energy problems. Three decades of experience with nuclear energy in the United States have shown both that it is relatively safe and that it will not solve anyone's energy problems overnight.

Anyone who is afraid of the dangers from a nuclear power plant and is not afraid to drive on the roads in Israel should learn more about nuclear energy before jumping to conclusions. Nearly everyone in Israel has had a friend or relative who was killed in an automobile accident. We should remember that he would still be alive and well today if he had been at Three Mile Island at the time of the worst nuclear accident in three decades of

American nuclear power, instead of being in his automobile at the time of his road accident.

The nuclear power industry is one of the most safety-conscious industries in the world, because of the attention they have received from the public and the media. Nuclear experts in Israel know about the dangers of sabotage, earthquakes and other possible catastrophes. They can ensure that living near a reactor will be much less dangerous than driving on the roads and that the pollution from the reactor will be much less than the pollution from automobile exhaust fumes.

The main danger to Israel from embarking on a nuclear power programme is that it will cost a lot of money and that it may make a lot of money for investors on the stock exchange without providing the promised energy at the promised price.

HARRY J. LIPKIN,  
Professor of physics  
Rehovot.

MAYOR PLEASED WITH NAME

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post  
Sir, — I refer to a "Postscript" printed in The Jerusalem Post on January 30: my parents gave me the name of Theodore, which I think is a good Zionist name, and I will stick to it.



Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek

I believe that one day the Rabbinate should decide that people with this name can be called up to the Torah, as it was once decided that those with the name of Alexander can be called up in recognition of the fact that he, "the Great," did not insist on his shrine being set up in the Temple. Theodore should be included in the same category.

The Mishna mentions, "10 and 1

am fortunate that Theodore is customarily shortened to this good Hebrew name. During the time of the Temple, a gate in Jerusalem was thus named. What better coincidence!!

TEDDY KOLLEK  
Jerusalem.

OFFENSIVE REACTION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post  
Sir, — I would like your readers to know about a virulent and offensive anti-Israel reaction of an American scientist, an employee of a well-known American electronics company.

Dr. Mitchell, a scientist working in the Racah Institute of Physics at the Hebrew University, sent a letter to Dr. J.R.M. Vaughan, of Litton

Industries, San Carlos, California. Dr. Mitchell received his letter back, unopened, and on the envelope the message: "I will not engage in correspondence with the murderers of Lebanon. J.R.M. Vaughan."

I wonder if this is the official policy of Litton Industries.

PROFESSOR F. DOTHAN  
Jerusalem.

BALANCED PICTURE OF ISRAEL

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post  
Sir, — Reading The Jerusalem Post, I get to know the reality of Israeli life: it gives me a taste of "living Israel," its problems, struggles, failures, even dreams. Israel's various opinions, ideas, as well as accomplishments.

What I most appreciate in your paper is its honesty, its non-partisanship. Though the editorials echo the thinking of the paper, you

nevertheless leave plenty of room for other viewpoints. This allows the reader to discover the complexity of Israel and helps to form a balanced opinion of people and events, too often provided in the media by journalists who have but a short and superficial knowledge of the issues they are speaking about.

SR. MARIE NOELLE  
Lorgoes, France.

HOTEL MEISTER LUGANO

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post  
Sir, — We refer to the correspondence between our hotel and one of our Jewish guests, which appeared in the Israeli press.

Our letter was a purely personal one and we have meanwhile apologized to the guest. Due to its insulting terminology, however, the letter itself open to be interpreted — wrongly — as a generalized accusation. Since this does not correspond to the facts, we take the liberty of clarifying our position publicly.

For years, our hotel has catered to a large Jewish clientele. Now guests confirm to us, as a rule, that

they came upon personal recommendation.

For several years we have been open outside the season to the seminars of the European Yachiel Kalla (religious study retreats). Also, we have, since 1975, put up free of charge injured Israeli army veterans.

We hope that these facts reflect our true attitude more accurately than a tactless letter, written in anger. We wish to take this opportunity to apologize to all those who may have felt hurt through the publication of this letter.

H. AND J. MÜLLER  
Hotel Meister Lugano  
Lugano.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1983

Hot facts and cold

"WE CANNOT freeze our settlement activity any more than we could freeze life itself" the prime minister declared in the Knesset this week.

The declaration may have been aimed less at the U.S. president, who broached the idea in his now famous plan five months ago, than at Geula Cohen, who threatened to pull the Tehiya Party out of the coalition if Mr. Begin were to agree to such a freeze even for a moment.

For diplomacy's sake, Mr. Begin is wont to describe his policy as having for its purpose the prevention of a dire threat to Israel's very existence — in the shape of a Palestinian state, whether wholly independent or associated with Jordan. With this sleight of hand Mr. Begin disposes of the Reagan Plan, which envisages a kind of Palestinian entity, not really a state, in association with the Hashemite Kingdom.

The Camp David agreement, the premier keeps pointing out, does not promise a Palestinian state, nor does it recognize any Palestinian right of self-determination. Mr. Begin is rather less anxious to concede that Camp David also offers no ground for Israel's present bid to incorporate the occupied areas of the West Bank and Gaza, as part of the final political settlement that is to follow the period of the autonomy.

Resolution 242, in which Camp David is firmly anchored, requires Israel to negotiate the final boundaries of the West Bank with Jordan. This is the interpretation of 242 endorsed by all those states which view the reference to Israel's withdrawal from "territories" and not from "the territories" as warrant for this country's refusal to return to the old armistice lines. Israel alone rejects this pro-Israeli interpretation as too constricting, claiming, against the whole world, that its duty to make a pullback was fully exhausted in Sinai.

The real basis for the current Israeli concept of the future of the West Bank and Gaza lies rather in settlement activity. At the moment there are fewer than 30,000 Jews in settlements beyond the supposedly non-existent Green Line, but within three years, by the end of 1985, there should, according to the plans, be a total of some 100,000. On paper, this number of Jews would be no match for the 700,000 Arabs now in Judea and Samaria.

But these Jews would, it is assumed, constitute a "fact on the ground" that no future Israeli government could revoke. To be sure, it is entirely possible that the heat will soon be turned on Israel by the U.S. to freeze all settlement activity. President Reagan has dangled that promise in seeking to coax King Hussein into joining the peace talks. The freeze, however, even if Israel were somehow to accept it for a limited duration, would presumably apply only to new settlements.

Existing settlements in Judea and Samaria, including the Jordan Valley, already number over 100. According to the World Zionist Organization, the goal of population parity with the Arabs in Judea and Samaria could be attained with 1.4 million Jews in the year 2010 — even through the existing settlements alone. Only a "fleshing out" of these settlements would be needed.

Could President Reagan try to veto such activity, which in the Premier's view is analogous to life itself? That remains to be seen.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1983

Nigerian tragedy

SOME THREE MILLION West Africans, mostly Ghanaians, are in the process of being brutally expelled from Nigeria.

Attracted to Nigeria during its oil boom, these foreigners are now being ejected, forced to leave Nigeria in a mad scramble under a two-week deadline that has already officially ended. The toll in dead is mounting, for there is no way in which so many people can be stampeded out of Nigeria without great suffering and a heavy cost in lives.

But inevitably the attention that will be focussed in the West on this tale of inhumanity and suffering will be minimal. A rousing demonstration in Birzeit or the provocative action of a U.S. marine officer in Beirut directed at an Israeli army unit would more easily capture the imagination and the headlines of western opinion than the plight of three million Africans victimized by other Africans.

At play here is a kind of inverted imperialism — namely moral standards can be applied only when the West victimizes the Third World, but not when the inhumanity is intramural.

As long as this state of affairs exists and as long as African and other Third World states accept it for themselves there will be many more such tragedies like the one being played out in Nigeria.

The Friday Dry Bones



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1983

The creaking machine

"PATIENTS are dying because they are not receiving proper medical care."

This was the indictment hurled against Health Minister Eliezer Shostak and the government by the directors of large government hospitals and their senior medical staff in an extraordinary meeting on Wednesday.

The doctors had come to protest the overcrowding, lack of nurses, support staff and equipment in the country's government hospitals. Mr. Shostak had no answer. He could only say there was no more money available. It seemed a rather lame response in a condition where patients are bedded down in dining rooms for want of bed space in the wards, or are discharged before they are medically fit to leave the hospital, or have needed surgery put off because there are no nurses etc. etc.

It is not quite clear why Israel, which publicly takes such pride in its medical standards and services, should be faced with a health care crisis.

But then neither is it clear why a people which has always placed such a high value on education should now be appraised that 20 per cent of the pupils who reach seventh grade cannot really read or write. Or why half the Arab children of Jaffa do not attend school. Or why the ledgers of the nation's courts are so crowded and so far behind as to make a mockery of the system of justice. Or why the conditions of the nation's prisons are such that they breed recidivism rather than reform. Or why the nation's elderly are condemned either to lonely isolation or total dependence on their children since there is no adequate network of old-age homes.

Obviously the blame, for the glaring deficiencies in the network of national services cannot be apportioned on a partisan basis. For the inadequacies that exist, and which are becoming ever more noticeable, predate 1977 and have their origins in the latter years of Labour rule.

Yet the Likud, under Mr. Begin, even more than Labour has focussed almost all its energies and concerns on politics, both external and domestic, and settlement of the West Bank, at the expense of all other areas of social concern.

There is inevitably a price to be paid for such a narrowing of governmental priorities. That price will not be paid at the ballot box. For the Israeli voter doesn't choose his leaders according to conditions in hospitals, or the literacy level of our schools.

The price will be much greater, namely the continuous deterioration of the nation's quality of life.

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Stock fever

THE STOCK EXCHANGE fever appears to have subsided, but the sickness which gave rise to it has not been cured. The exchange remains what it was earlier — a popular gambling casino rather than a well-ordered market in financial securities, ruled by sobriety and based on fair-play. The sheer number of manipulations suspected of having been perpetrated in it in the past is evidence of the crying need for a reform of the system.

For one thing, it is sorely time for the Treasury to lay down such criteria for the issuance of new shares which would no longer allow every Tom, Dick and Harry to have securities listed in his name on the Stock Exchange. The exchange should also be equipped with the means of detecting — and blocking — any movement of prices that is not only unusual but inexplicable as well.

Another matter that needs attention is the all-too-easy access to trading on the share market by every holder of a bank account.

There is no end of savings plans — short-term plans bearing high interest, medium-term plans that are index-linked, and long-term plans combined with pensions. All that the small investor needs to do in order to provide against a rainy day, without taking an undue risk, is to pick one or another among them.